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International Court of Justice

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OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL, DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

MONDAY, 3 JUNE 1946

COMMISSIONERS:

Captain Tubridy
Mr. McIlwraith

THE SD

(The Commission convened at 1000 hours.)

DR. KNOCKEN - Resumed
DIRECT EXAMINATION - Continued.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Would you remind the witness he is still under oath?

DR. MERKEL: Mr. Commissioner, I would like to make a short statement concerning the following:

On Saturday we received the first transcripts and we noticed that in the transcript of Naujochs testimony some wrong sentences, in which the wrong ideas were contained.

For instance, on page 157 of the transcript, to my question:

"Q. You said previously already that it was not the ~~department~~ duty of any department of our RSHA to start border incidents. Is that also concerning Amt 4?"

And in the transcript is the following answer:

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"A. No, I don't know any part of Amt 6 that would be responsible for a job like that."

In reality the witness answered:

"A. I didn't know that any such things were taken care of in Amt 4."

By now there are at least eight to ten errors that tend to change the use and ideas of the person who was talking. Therefore, it may be necessary that this witness will have to be heard again. To prevent such cases in the future I request the stenographer in case if they have any doubts or any questions they don't understand some of the things to say that right away. In the transcript before the Court things like that can be cleared up due to the fact that the words are being recorded, which is not the case here, and because of that the transcript has to be especially exact since it has to be evaluated by the Court, but the Court actually does not hear the witnesses themselves and, ~~therefore~~ therefore, cannot change in any way according to the notations that they themselves make.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Mr. Merkel, after examining the transcript, the German transcript, have you noticed any errors in it?

DR. MERKEL: Yes, there are at least ten errors in the German transcript.

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CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: If, after examining the German transcript, if you find any errors, if you will submit a statement of what you believe those errors to be, a statement in writing, we will make a comparison with the English text and then we will make the changes in the German text if we find that the errors existed. Recordings are being taken in both German and English and we will be only too happy to reconcile them.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q I expect to ask the witness, Dr. Knocken, concerning the following: I expect to ask him about the organization duties, their activities and matters of the Sonderkommando amts from 1940 to 1942, and about the duties of the BDS from 1942 to 1944, as far as the security police are concerned; the activities, organization duties and matters of the security field police in the field, gendarmeries and the police and SS leaders in France; cooperation between the security police on the one side and the French police and German army on the other side; the participation of the security police, in the arrest, torture and killing of French citizens in France, and then again concerning the activities in the original cases that were claimed by the Prosecution as being a part of the security police, and when did you come to the security police and the SD?

A In 1937, through a summons I came into the SD. That is to the press part of the SD. Before that, I did

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not have any connection whatsoever with the SD. In that advisory capacity I was working in the press department of the SD. That was more or less a scientific work, especially concerning the use and possibility of the Reich immigrant and their use. Due to my work with the foreign newspaper and the immigrant newspaper I was transferred to Amt 6. I was in Amt 6 until I was ordered to France. I worked here until I was transferred to Paris in June with the group that worked with the higher SS, the police leader Thomas. He was not the higher SS and police leader but the representative of the chief of the security police, Thomas. He was a representative for Belgium and France. ~~from 1940 to 1942~~ From 1940- 1942 these numbered at first only twenty and then forty and then the highest number was about 200 men for all of occupied France. These had no executive powers from 1940 until 1942. With the entering of the higher SS and police leader I was made the chief of the Security Police or SD. With that for the first time I got any connection to any kind of actual security police work. Up until then I was only working on the information field. Due to that I was immediately received as a representative whose duty it was to take care of all executive orders with the Chief of Amt 4. I remained chief of the

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Security Police until August, 1944, and then was recalled by Himmler and became an SS with the Waffen SS. In January, 1945, I was recalled from the Waffen SS and transferred back into Amt 6.

Q Who then took care of police work in France before the higher SS and police leader was appointed, that is, in 1940 antil 1942?

A The police department of the military government.

Q What departments of the military government that were connected with the military chief worked in that connection?

A The administration department, the ~~Kommando~~ command ~~Kommando~~ department, with I-A and I-C, and the military courts.

Q Who had executive powers, police executive powers at that time?

A The secret field police and field Gendarmerie.

Q In other words, in this connection, only a German executive?

A Of course, the French police also had executive powers and worked together with the police of the military government.

Q What were the duties of the security field police and the field gendarmerie?

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A The security field police first of all had duty with the army units but they were units connected immediately to the army command post and actually it was the executive of the military police and military administration and military abwehr. The same is also the case with the field gendarmerie.

Q Were those units part of the security police or part of the army?

A No, they were military units who were under military court, who wore military uniforms and who were solely under the military command.

Q What position did the chief of the field police have in France and under whose jurisdiction was it?

A The chief of the field police xxxxxxxx constituted the chief of the command and he had under him all of the various field police directives and units.

Q The chief of the commando staff was part of the military headquarters?

A Yes, the chief of the command staff was in charge of the various departments, I-A, I-B and I-C, and constituted the military commanders. He was on an equal basis as the chief of the administration.

Q Is it true that in 1942 the members of the security field police were transferred to the security police and SD?

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A Yes

Q Can you give us some information about the number of these men, of their formations and whether or not they were volunteers or went into the security police and SD voluntarily or not?

A Twenty-three groups of 100 men each were taken over. In addition to that some members of the staff and at least an approximate 2300 men were ordered transferred to the security police. That, as far as I know, was an agreement between the High Command of the Army and the Chief of the Security Police.

From those 2300 men, 160 of them were formerly members, that is, before they were called into the army, members of the ~~xix~~ criminal ~~pk~~ police ~~x~~ or state police.

From these 160 professional policemen about seventy per-cent belonged formerly to the criminal police. Twenty per-cent were members of the administration and about ten per-cent were members of the State Police. The mass of these 2300 men were members of the various occupations, teachers and farmers and so on, who were drafted into the army.

These former members of the secret field police now had to wear the SS uniform with the SD insignia and also were under the SS jurisdiction.

Q At the same time, besides these members of the security police, also the police groups and members

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of the military government were taken over?

A Another forty men about were taken over, men who formerly took care of the police questions, both at the police headquarters and with the various command posts throughout France. There were forty of them.

Q And I wish you would answer my last question exactly: Was this a voluntary transfer or was it a transfer resulting from a law or order?

A It was a transfer through orders.

Q Could the various members of the secret field police object to that transfer, that is, if they did not want to be transferred?

A No sir.

Q You were very active from July, 1940, until April, 1942, in France, how at that time was your organization or command?

A This command consisted at first of twenty men and then another twenty and it had the job of taking over the various Free Masons and Jewish Bureaus, as well as the immigrant bureaus and to take over their archives and to evaluate them.

Q Who was in charge of this office?

A The representatives of the chief of the security police, Thomas.

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The duty of this command group was a duty of evaluating archives to build up an information net without any executive powers. Members of this commando were criminal police, State police and SD, and none of them had any executive powers whatsoever.

Q What duties went over to the new higher SS and police leaders and what were it's principal duties?

A The police duties of the military government went over to the high SS and police leaders. These duties were divided among the security police and the order police through the table of organization which was drawn up by the Reich Security Main Office on one hand, the Order Police Main Office on the other hand.

Q What happened to the duties of the RSHA which could not be divided among these groups?

A These duties were combined into a newly organized office called II Police.

Q Did this group, II Police, have any executive powers?

A No, officials taken over from the police department of the military government were in charge of this department.

Q Under whose jurisdiction was the higher SS and police leaders?

A The higher SS police leader was under the

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military commander on about the same level as the Chief of the Commando Staff, that is, he was under the jurisdiction of the military commander concerning all police matters.

Q Did he also receive any direct orders from Himmler?

A Yes, especially during the time when there was no Chief of the security police from June ~~19xxx19xx~~ 1942 to February, 1943. He received continuous orders concerning his duties, for instance, as far as the armed SS and Waffen SS was concerned, and also received orders from Himmler in his capacity as SS chief and chief of the police.

Q Did any of these police remain with the military government?

A Yes.

Q For instance?

A Yes, in the administration of the detention camp in Compiegne and Romainville, the guarding of these camps, the up-keep of these camps, the same was for all army members, army detention camps, that is the army prisoners, to which the German police also sent their prisoners. Also the internment camps remained completely under the military government.

Q How many police detention camps were there?

A There were two camps at Compiegne and Romainville.

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Q Therefore, how many men did the Security Police and SD have?

A The 2300 men taken ~~xx~~ over from the security field police and an additional 200 men who were in France already. From these 2300 men from the field police, the youngest ones were taken out right away for front duty on the Eastern front.

Q What was the table of organization of the Commanders of the Security Police and their commandants?

A These 2400 or 2500 men were divided into the sections of the commanders of the security police, and to the 16 commandants who also had various outposts. The office of the chief of the security police had about 500 men which included the drivers, stenographers, interpreters and everything else. These 500 men were divided up as follows: About 140 men for the personnel and administration section, that is, departments I and II, and then II Police about twenty men. And for Department III, the SD, that is, in the sense of Amt 3 of the Reich Security Office, had about 40 men. Then Department 4, equal to Amt 4 of the Reich Security Office had about 140 men, with Department V, which is equal to Amt 5 of the Reich Security Office, that is the criminal police, had about 80 men, and Department 6, corresponding to Amt 6 of the Reich Security office had also about 80 men. I may point out that in these numbers, all helpers,

~~drivers~~

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drivers, clerks and everything has been included. With trained personnel the relation is about as follows:

Members of the Gestapo were about 25; of the criminal police about 30, members of Amt 3 and 6 I combined, about twelve, military men and special officials about 15, and the others of those 40 I have mentioned before were either the commanders or were working with the field commanders. I might add that at the same time that these secret field policemen were taken over by the security and SD, that ~~for~~ the military police administration was also taken over. In other words, about 415 of the entire group were helpers who formerly did not have anything whatsoever to do with police work. They were soldiers or members of various occupations. May I also point out concerning Department 4, which numbered 140, of these only about 30 or 40 had any executive powers whatsoever, and they only received these executive powers if any cases occurred which were important to all of France. The biggest part of the members of Department 4, Gestapo, were active in evaluating information and reporting to the Reich Security Office, Amt. 4.

Q Will you give us a brief explanation whether or not the office of the chief of the security police, or it's outside commandos, were voluntary or not?

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A The Commanders always were at the same place as the French regional prefect, and they worked with the police representatives of the regional prefect and also with the regional prefect himself. They also had to report constantly to the representatives of the military field commander, and they had also to report to him.

Q Witness, I do not think you understood my question. All I want to know is whether the office of the Chief of the Security Police or the various Field Commanders, whether these officers were made up of volunteers or whether they were recruited some other way.

A No, they did not have any chance of volunteering for anything. They were ordered to these various jobs, to their individual posts.

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The ratio personnel of the out-side commanders and their offices is about the same, as I have already explained concerning the office of the Chief of the Security Police.

Q What were your duties as chief of the Security Police.

A Mine was the duty of directing the various departments of the Security Police according to the rules and regulations laid down by the Reichs Security Main office. The instructions came from the various departments in the Reichs Main Security Office and I was in charge of the organization and administration of the Security Office.

Q You have already mentioned that the number of members of the Security Police totalled about 2,500 men. In comparison with this, what would you say was the number of French policemen?

A I do not know the exact number of French policemen, while they should be in the Journal Official, I can give you a few local numbers.

Q As for example, the number in Paris?

A The commander of the Security Police in Paris had about 400 to 450 men, including all helpers, etc. The Order police had only a tiny office in Paris between thirty and fourty men. The French Police, on the other hand, had in Paris about 15,000 uniformed personnel and between 6,000 and 7,000 not uniformed personnel, that is criminal police or other police of that sort.

Q Whom in the German Police had executive powers?

A Department 4 - the Gestapo and Department 5 - the Criminal Police.

Q How was the armament of the Executive Police?

A It was the same armament as the Secret Field Police had. The officers had pistols and the others had carbines.

Q Was the German Police executive the only executive concerning police

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matters?

A No, the French Police also had executive powers.

Q Was this police executive sufficient?

A No, due to the resistance movement, the executives of the German and French police were not sufficient to safeguard law and order in Framce.

Q When was this police executive aided or replaced by other executive power?

A It was replaced when the field commander of that particular area saw that the protection of the troops was not assured any more. He also was in charge of any installation that was under him as the Ministry Chief.

Q For the transportation of prisoners, were military units used?

A Yes, the field police was used constantly to guard prisoners, but the moment the field police appeared the movement was under the order of the military commanders.

Q Were any regulations issued concerning the possibility that the security of the occupational troops was in danger, especially in the case of an invasion and what kind of orders were they?

A These orders were provided and were prepared on the same scale as the mobilization orders. This whole thing was especially prepared and thought up for the expected invasion. If any German Departments were endangered, the entire executive powers was transferred to the army field commander.

Q Do you mean executive of the powers in the field of police work?

A In all such cases the Security Police was subordinate to the Military Commander, the same was also the case for the order police.

Q Who was in charge in combined operations of the army and the police?

A The military group. Even if one officer and ten or twelve gendarmes

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participated in any action with the police, the executive power immediately went over to the military administration.

Q Who had the responsibility for such actions?

A The Ministry Departments.

Q Did the activities of the German police occur with the consent of the French police?

A Yes.

Q Where were the rules issued in the work between the Franch and German police?

A The activities of the German and French Police were under the rules of the agreement, which was signed between the higher SS Police leader Oberg and the Chief of the Vichy Police Bonsquet.

Q How was this agreement arrived upon?

A This agreement was arrived upon after the suggestion for it by the French Police Chief Bonsquet and it was also favorably considered by the French President and Chief of Staff.

Q Will you tell us very shortly about the contents of this agreement?

A The duty of the German Police was to safeguard army units and army institutions against any kind of sabotage, terror acts or espionage. The duty of the French Police was the keeping of law and order and defend against any attacks on French institutions and French departments, especially against left wing units and resistance groups, also the French Police was to defend any German institutions that were attacked ar German units and the German Police was in all cases to defend any attack on French institutions and make inquiries concerning same. Only matters of espionage were concerned with the German police and German counter intelligence.

Q Was this agreement between Oberg and Bousquet also extended to the southern part of France later on?

A Yes.

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Q Was anything changed in the entire field organizations after the occupation of southern France?

A No, at the seat of the French Regional Prefect a German commandant of the Security Police was sent in, as well as a department of the order police.

Q How many new personnel came to France after the occupation of ~~the~~ southern France?

A None whatsoever. Southern France had to be taken over with these same men who up to now had worked in occupied France. It can be said that after the slightly manned office of the Security Police in the occupied part of France ~~were~~ WAS deprived of power of the men who had to go to Southern France, that the command posts of the Security Police in the various regions were not larger than 80 to 100 men and in a few cases over 100 men who had to take care of an entire region.

Q Was the French Police, according to the agreement between Oberg and Bourquet independant and to what extent did it remain independant?

A The French Police remained independant and the French Police was independant, but they had to submit police decrees for publication and also had to submit to the higher SS and Police leaders on the transfer of important police officers.

Q Did the Security Police in France work in cooperation or together with any other police institutions or units in France?

A Yes, they worked together in cooperation with the ministry administration and German embassy, as well as with the Red Cross concerning questions ~~questions~~ of internment camps and also with the Swiss Embassy also in connection with internment camps and with other offices. For instance, on propaganda matters, with the propaganda staff.

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Q How was the recruiting, employment and transportation of the French workers taken care of?

A This question was taken care of by a Labor employment office, with the army administering this office or department working through the German embassy with the French Ministry concerned, which also had created a new department for this. The French Government made up decrees concerning the first voluntary recruitment for labor groups and later on, as far as I know, concerning the compulsary recruitment of certain age groups. The executive power in this case was in the hands of the French administration and the French police. If any German Ministry executive powers were used at any time, I would not know. The Security Police was never touched by these questions. I can say that for certain because I know that Saukel tried to get the German Police connected in some way with this labor recruitment, which, however, was categorally turned down. It had been claimed at one time that Saukel, with his own executive powers, would administer this labor recruitment in France, but as far as I know this was never done.

Q Who turned down this request from Saukel?

A It was brought out by the Security Police that a continuation of these labor employment tactics brought with them a strengthening of the maquis and the request from Saukel was turned down during a discussion in which the Military Command and the higher SS Police Leader Oberg, as well as the German Ambassador, I believe took part.

Q Do you know who was sent to Germany to work in concentration camps and who was responsible for that?

A Persons that in any manner had acted against the decrees concerning the security of the army were sent to Concentration camps. The rules concerning these executive powers were from Department 4 of the Reichs Main Security Office to the Department 4 of the Security Office in France.

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Q Only those who had taken part in the resistance movement and had been arrested in France were sent to the concentration camps in Germany?

A Yes.

Q Who was in charge of combatting the French resistance movement?

A The Security Police, the Ministry Offices of Departmentl and 6 and the Ministry Counter Intelligence office.

Q Did the French Police also take part in this?

A Yes. Without the help of the French police and police organizations of this kind, the program would not have been able to be carried out, for the German police offices did not have even a local office in every capitol of a French Department and to say nothing of the smaller cities or villages. The Frontier Customs Protection Police was under the jurisdiction of the Military Commandant.

Q Did the actions of the resistance movement turn out to be a real danger to the German troops in France?

A Yes.

Q Why was not France declared a banded territory?

A The reports of the Security Police always stressed the fact that the French Government, the French Administration and Police carried on their work. This was a fact that pointed to giving security to the French people, but one could not speak of banded groups as such, but later as terrorist groups and thus the steps that the higher authorities wanted to take and declare France a banded territory were prevented and all the things pertaining to such a declaration and the unpleasantness that such a declaration would have brought along with it. There was a very large distinction in the various resistance and terror-

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ist groups. There were groups for instance who carried out attacks and were also a menace to the French population. These people usually lived in the country and tried to evade recruitment for labor employment. Other terrorists were of a particular character, there was also a distinction in these groups. Some were adherants of DeGaulle, others of Giraud and other groups who were of a leftist character. All of these groups received a single leadership aim and objective only in the course of time.

Q Who was competent for carrying out arrests in France?

A Departments 4 and 5 of the Security Police and the Rural Police.

Q According to what directions were arrests and transfers into Military Detention Institutions and camps carried out?

A As far as Departments 4 and 5 were concerned, the directives of the Reich Main Security Office, as far as the rural police were concerned, the Ministry Counter Intelligence.

Q Were the terms for protective custody known in France?

A Yes, but approval and decision in all cases lay in the hands of the Reichs Main Security Office.

Q Were their Security Police prisons in France?

A No, there were only the so-called military detention institutions that remained always under the jurisdiction of the military authorities.

Q Were they also under the jurisdiction of the Military Command as entries were made by the Security Police?

A Yes, all questions such as, questions of food, etc., were taken care of by the Military Government and soldiers.

Q Did the Security Police have any hand in guarding these institutions?

A In no way.

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Q Who transported the prisoners of Compaigne to Germany?

A Compaigne was also administrative and was guarded by the army. The actual removal of these prisoners from the camp was taken care of by the Military authorities, but the train transport was in the hands of regular uniformed police. As far as I remember, at the German frontier, the guarding of these trains was taken over by German citizen groups as there were not enough police in France to take care of the matter of watching and guarding the prisoners.

Q Were reprisal measures taken against the French population?

A Yes.

Q Of what did these reprisal measures consist?

A These reprisal measures consisted of imposing curfews and shorter curfew hours, the closing of theaters and cinemas. The population had to guard cable lines and telephone lines where acts of sabotage had occured.

Q Were any shootings carried out within the reprisal measures?

A Yes.

Q Who ordered the shootings?

A I am not speaking of the measures that were taken after the higher SS and Police Fuehrer was introduced. These shootings were ordered either personally by Hitler or by the Army High Command. I am not sure which. The Army High Command received actual reports from all offices concerning acts of sabotage carried out. These offices included the Ministry Office, the chief of the air force, the chief of the navy office and police. Himmler gave continual reports of any acts of sabotage. The Army High Command, over the Fuehrer's headquarters, gave orders for shootings and these shootings were to be carried out by the Military Command and the Higher SS and the Police Fuehrer.

Q Did the Security Police, as an organization, have anything to do with

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the shooting of hostages in France.

A Yes, Department 4. By order of Oberg, all those who were in protective custody thru Three had to be named and along with those men who had already been sentenced by military courts were to be executed and other named groups had to be made up. The higher SS and Police Fuehrer would have the men mentioned in these groups executed by commands of the regular uniformed police. The Security Police had nothing to do with this execution as such.

Q Do you know ~~xx~~ actually which commands took part in the execution and who actually had a hand in the executions?

A This commandant was a command under the chief of the regular uniformed police and I cannot say anything about this command.

Q Do you know for certain if members of the Security Police had any hand in these shootings or not?

A I do not know of any members of the Security Police who took part in such executions. I have to say though that Department 2 POA did receive a list of these people who had been in protective custody group three, together with a list of the people who had been sentenced by a military court, and they had to call for the Protestant and Catholic priests when such executions were to be carried out, therefore Office 2 POA had to take care of such administrative matters in the frame work of the executions as department 2 POA was a department handling all matters of police administration and regulations under the office of the Higher SS and Police Fuehrer.

Q Do you know which persons were selected to be executed as hostages?

A Within this group - Protective Custody 3 - there were only such people who had been proven to have committed an act of sabatoge or assasinations or measures directed against the military Government and these persons would have

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been sentenced to death in any case. These were the regulations as far as I know concerning Protective Custody Group 3. For example, no inmates of Compaigne were ever selected for execution.

Q Why not?

A Because in Compaigne there were only inmates of Protective Custody Groups 1 and 2.

Q You said before that the Prisoners of Protective Custody Group consisted of only those who had taken part in acts of sabotage and resistance against the military occupying power. What was considered proof that a person had taken part in such a crime?

A The confession or admission of the prisoner. Before execution these cases were again re-examined very carefully.

Q By whom?

A By the higher SS and Police Fuehrer. I myself never took part in these matters, but I know there were such cases.

Q Neither you, nor your office, took any part in these matters?

A Only the director of Department 4 presented these facts to the higher SS Police Fuehrer and my deputy whose special mission it was to carry out this execution. The Security Police never carried out these reprisal measures or executions.

Q How many executions took place in carrying out these reprisal measures?

A If I remember cocrectly, two executions in 1942, one in August and one in September and one in October of 1943.

Q How many persons were liquidated?

A I believe the first execution comprised 50 men, the second 60 men and the third 90 men, but I cannot say that these numbers are exact. I can only

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give an estimate.

Q Were ever more people executed than had been ordered to be executed?

A No. On the contrary I know that there was not a sufficient number of prisoners who could have been named for such execution.

Q Was the German police in France generally known in France as the Gestapo, the Sipo and the SD?

A Yes.

Q When you testified in your answers to the defense lawyer for the SD, you said that certain Frenchmen pretended to be members of ~~thim~~ the SD. Is this also true of the Gestapo that Frenchmen termed themselves to be members of the Gestapo?

A Yes.

Q In order to carry on illegal activities?

A Yes and cases were also known where this was true of Germans.

Q In order to save time, I want to summarize my questions concerning the participation of the Gestapo conspiracy this way. Do you know whether the members of the Security Police or the organization of the Security Police in France had any hand in the conspiracy?

A No.

Q Did the Security Police in France have anything to do with the immigration of Jews?

A Yes, through the Commander Dannecker, which was immediately subordinate to Amt. 4 of the Reichs Main Security Office.

Q Was this Jewish Department a Department like the other Departments of Amt. 4 and were under the jurisdiction of Department 4?

A No this office was not under the jurisdiction of Department 4 like the

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other departments of 4 were under the jurisdiction of Directum 4. The Jewish Department received its orders from Eichman in Berlin.

Q What measures did the French Government take in connection with the Jewish measures?

A The French Government published various laws concerning the Jewish question. The French Government appointed a Jewish Commissioner and the French Government had a so-called special Jewish Police that concerned itself with the Jewish questions. The camp in Trancy and several other camps were managed and guarded by the French Government.

Q Did the Security Police play any part in the election or administration of this camp?

A No. Department 2 POL ordinarily carried on negotiations and was in touch with the camp in Trancy and other interrment camps. I don't know what influence this special command had on this particular camp.

Q Were there transports to Trancy and from Trancy to Germany organized by the Security Police?

A I remember that up to the summer of 1942 2 POL had no executive capacity and such transports were carried through by the rural police. The Security Police as such never carried out any such transports. There would not have been sufficient personnel to do so. I do know that the French Government and police were eager to see to it that these measures were carried out by the French police. I do not know of any transports at one time or another that had been carried out by the Security Police. After Dannecker had been recalled, very little happened for several months on the question of Jewish transports. In May and June of 1943 a new appointee called Brunner came to the Department, and was to carry out once more the execution of this question together with the French Government. During Brunner's time there was no par-

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ticipation by the Security Police because after Brunner came to France he had a much more powerful position. He brought along his own men and own cars and acted completely independantly.

Q I should now like to submit some documents to you and discuss them with you. Documents, which were submitted by the French Prosecution, to prove that the Security Police had a hand in this. Please confine yourself as briefly as possible to that which is absolutely essential.

On Page 3912 of the German Record, Doc. RF 1203, it says "The Reichshauptfuehrer SS and the Chief of German Police in the Reichministry of the Interior has ordered that generally all Jewish extradition from Germany and the occupied territory is not to take place." The prosecution wants to prove by means of this Document the cooperation of the Army and the German Police, is that correct?

A The Document is of the time before the institution of the Higher SS and Police Fuehrer. All questions of police administrative and executive matters were at that time handled directly by the German Police and Military Government. This was a subject matter pertaining to the work of the Military Government.

Q On Page 3920 of the German Record, Document RF 1210 mention is made to prove that the German Office cooperated in handling the Jewish question. Please state your opinion.

A This is a report by Rosenberg and by Dannecker, which shows that Dannecker and his office permanently and directly cooperated with the Military Command, with the German embassy and with the action group. Rosenberg and the various offices mentioned had issued the compulsory decrees and carried on negotiations with the French authorities. Considering the directives that Dannecker received from Berlin,

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he made various proposals here in order to create an office, which was to concern itself with this Jewish question.

Q On Page 3922 of Document RF 1211 mention is made of a letter from the Military Commander in France to the General Plenipotentiary of the French Government. The next two paragraphs mentioned the raising of a sum of one hundred million francs imposed on the Jews as a reprisal measure and the deportation of forced labor from France. Does this Document show any participation of the Security Police in these measures?

A No, for in the year 1941 the Security Police had not executive power at all in France. The reprisal matters mentioned here are purely a military matter at that time, as I have already said. The Secret Field Police and the Rural Police were the only executive organization of the police. This is concerned with the administrative staff.

Q On the same page, Document RF 12 is mentioned a letter from the Military Commander to the office of Military Commandant Harris, deputy to the Chief of the Security Police and SD in Paris concerning the deportation of Jews and Bolshevik elements for purposes of enforced labor in the East. What can you say to this?

A This letter was also written before the institution of the office of the Higher SS and Police leader. The entire executive power was in the military hands insofar as the Jewish question was involved. Here Dannecker asked to voice an opinion.

Q On the same page, Document RF 1213 is mentioned an order to the Military Commander in France by a Department concerning deportation of Jews and Bolshevik elements for purposes of enforced labor. Does this show a responsibility of the Security Police in these measures?

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A This is evidently the answer to the Document just submitted to me and refers to the aforementioned conferences with Dannecker and other German offices and again shows that Dannecker was in constant touch with these offices.

Q On the same page, Document RF 1215 is mentioned, which is a teletype to the Commander in Chief of District A. Did the Security Police participate in this?

A No, this is an instruction issued by the Military Government. The Chiefs of the Military Government in a district are immediately subordinate to the Military Government.

Q In regard to the Chief of District A, does that mean an office of the Security Police.

A No.

Q On Pages 3922 and 3923, Documents RF 1215, 1216 and 1217 are mentioned. Both Documents have been submitted to you for your opinion. Can any responsibility of the Military Police be drawn from these documents?

A Document 1216 proves that Dannecker was directly subordinate to Eichman. The report was made by me and my deputy because all offices in Paris were concerned with this work, but it is only a matter of having taken note of this business. Many other offices were concerned with this matter. Document 1217 also proves the independence of Dannecker and being an immediate subordinate to Eichman. Again this Document informs me of a conference that took place in the Reichs Main Security Office, attended by Dannecker and his appointees, as did Document 1216. These documents pass on orders that Eichman had issued to his deputy and appointees.

Q The next Document, RF 1218, refers to page 3924 of the German text con-

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cerns an order from Eichman to Dannecker on June 11, 1942.

A This Document again proves that Dannecker reported immediately to Eichman and also mentions Eichman's personal order to Dannecker. Hauptsturmfuehrer Dannecker negotiated independantly with Lt. Gen. Kohl, who was the first chief of transport matters, asking him to place a certain amount of transport space at his disposal.

Q On the same page, the next Document mentioned is RF 1219. It contains a claim of Dr. Knochen of June 15, 1942. I should like to ask the prosecution to submit the original to the witness, as I know the Document is 3 pages but I have only two pages. Is any responsibility of the Security Police established by the Document and is this Document signed by you?

A No, the Document is signed by Dannecker.

Q What about the reference number?

A The Document bears Dannecker's dictation sign and it is signed by Dannecker. I myself wrote a note on the Document and the Document was submitted to me as it states in the Document. Evidently Dannecker made promises in Berlin, which could not be carried out in practice. This is also shown by the fact that the General whom I mentioned had to give an negative answer to the transport question. According to Dannecker, these orders were always orders by Himmler and Eichman. I, myself, could not interfere here. In all these matters where the Jewish question was concerned, there was experienced a bad public opinion similar to that which I explained after Sauckel's actions and measures concerning labor enforcement work being carried out. Because I knew that the question of transport was a very delicate one at that time, I took steps to see that the transport question was solved decently. Because some deputy from the office had to carry out his special program, therefore, I

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spoke to Dept. Group 3 of the SD. This is the group that concerned itself with economic questions.

(THE COMMISSION RECESSED AT 1300 HOURS.)

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AFTERNOON SESSION

(The hearing reconvened at 1400 hours, 3 June 1946)

DR. KNOCHEN - resumed.
DIRECT -EXAMINATION - continued.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Will you remind the witness he is still under oath.

THE WITNESS: Yes.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I think we can proceed now.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q I give the witness the transcript, and will he give his opinion?

A (Witness looks at document) After the completion of the main conference, that is, of the traffic question, a report to be delivered to the higher SS and Police Leader Dannecker, also had consultations with the Commandant of the Field Police. In the remarks Dannecker stated that one representative of each police command should come to Paris in order to get new rules and regulations. I therefore said that any point I can not completely clear up should be represented to the higher SS and Police leader for his decision.

Q I give the witness the document No. 1220.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Would you wait just a minute please. Mr Monneray, you had an objection in connection with the examination of this witness on the document which was just completed.

M. MONNERAY: No objection.

~~CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: No objection.~~

DR. MERKEL: There are no new documents. All of these documents already have been presented by the prosecution.

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CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Yes, I understand. My question was ~~it is~~ in connection with a statement that Mr Monneray ~~had~~ made just before we recessed ~~for lunch~~.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q This No. 1220 is a letter of the German Embassy to the commander of the SIPO, the Security Police in France concerning the deportation of Jews . Referring to this deportation can you tell from this letter the participation of the Security Police as such be noted.

A This proof is not only that Dannecker talked with the German representative of the German Embassy on these Tuesday conferences, but also that he was in conference at times directly with the German representative Rahn, concerning these deportations. In this letter is a discussion with Dannecker, and tells Dannecker when to appear at the Embassy to receive, and also his discussion of the German representative Rahn, or Ambassador Abetz with Laval. If this letter is addressed to the Chief of Security Police, it only means that it actually was directed to a part of the Security Police.

Q A department of Dannecker's, which was connected with the Security Police, The document R-1222 on page 3926 of the transcript is presented to you for your information to give your opinion. What do you have to say concerning this?

A If the security commando was used for a guarding of one of these deportations, it is evident that they were used one single time, then they were used as a ~~middle~~ rule for the French police, because sofar as I know all papers concerning the number of Jews still deported were solely with the French Jewish Commissioners that was organized solely for this purpose. I don't know of any constant members who were solely working on the Jewish question. If Dannecker spoke on any of these points, the only way I can explain is that the vice-commanders, or some other members of these

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commissions out in the various French regions were sent to Paris in order to get the new rules and regulations. Of this measure my representative and myself were informed.

Q On page 3927, Exhibit No. 1223, a discussion or conference between Eichmann and Dannecker is mentioned concerning the evacuation of the Jews.

A This document proves the best relationship between Eichmann and Dannecker, and also the fact that Dannecker was subordinated to Eichmann. Eichmann was in Paris, and therefore at the official conference. I was told at this conference by Eichmann of the general orders from Himmler, and also told that the French Government was supposed to help us with these names. I told Eichmann at that time of the various hardships, or the various difficulties into which we would run, and also especially of the difficulties that we would have at that time known when occupied by the defense. That also can be read between the lines. The actual duties and measures to be taken were discussed directly between Eichmann and Dannecker, and as it says here in the document "Thoroughly discussed." These single various instructions are also mentioned to be such in the second paragraph of the remarks. That remark or statement was one where the notice was signed by both Dannecker and Eichmann.

Q I now come to the document which I consider very important, No. 1225, on page 3927 of the transcript. It is a statement concerning a conference on 6 July 1942, in which you took part. I especially point out the first and second paragraphs of this letter, or remark. Will you please give me your opinion concerning this.

A The previous document shows that Eichmann himself was in Paris, and was there 30 June and 1st July 1942. The conference with the representatives

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of the various Security Police commandos was followed during his presence in Paris as I see from this note, for he was in Paris at that time. The last document shows that the French Government was supposed to prepare a further deportation of Jews, but that was an order by Himmler to Eichmann who then sent it to France, that is, to Dannecker to be carried out in France. At that time I was ordered by the higher SS and Police Leader to conduct a conference with Bousquet in place of Dannecker. I believe at that time the higher SS and Police Leader was not able to come to this afternoon's conference with the French President Laval, because he sent with me that afternoon his personal representative to that conference. During that conference I only made the opening remarks, and later on the actual discussion of the various points and matters were carried out by Dannecker. From this letter it is evident that both Marshall Petain and President Laval, before the recently organized group of representatives, declared themselves ready to first of all have all stateless Jews in occupied and unoccupied France deported. In the afternoon the points which Dannecker had presented to Bousquet in the morning were discussed, and made clear to Laval.

Q On page 3927, No. 1226, is another letter concerning the deportation of Jews to Auschwitz?

A This letter contains a presentation by Eichmann concerning the fact that the deportation of Jews was not going ahead smoothly. Eichmann wants once more to go to the chief of Amt IV concerning this. It also is stated here that it was not the fault of Dannecker's department that this group of deportees were not sent, because he had received a report from Bordeaux that there were only 150 stateless Jews down there that very date. This representation by Eichmann was only made to Dannecker.

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COMM
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Gallagher
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Q On page 3928, Document No. 1227, and Document No. 1228 is mentioned. In Document 1228 it has remark that in the third paragraph that SS Brigadefuehrer Oberg, and SS Standartenfuehrer Knochen, that they would concerning this question talk to the French department connected with this. From that can you draw an opinion that these anti-Jewish actions were part of the SIPO and Security Police work?

A As to Document F-1228, this document proves that Dannecker independently conferred with the French officials concerning these matters, and that in part of the French department it was said that in these searches for Jews French police were used. Dannecker tells in this letter, for the information of myself, my representative, and the higher SS and Police Leaders, that in comparison with the other European countries, only a few Jews were deported from France. Therefore, he says that his ideas, or that his suggestions should be carried out and aided as much as possible; and he also says that himself, with myself and Oberg were supposed to talk to the French official concerning this matter. This document also shows that Dannecker discussed this question minutely with a representative of Bousquet. The document No. 1227 is a remark or statement by the special Jewish representative to the higher SS and Police Leader.

Q Document No. 1229 is a letter signed by you to the Reich Security Main Office. It is concerning also the deportation of Jews.

A It is a teletype message. It was sent out by me in answer to a teletype from Eichmann's office. In order to explain this message I'll have to add that Dannecker was recalled from Paris in, I believe, September 1942. It was for disciplinary reasons. The next few months, if I remember correctly, nothing definite was done concerning the Jewish matters, because in November was the occupation of southern France. I signed this teletype mes-

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sage due to the fact that I believed that the Jewish department, concerning themselves with Jewish matters, had written directly to me. I sent back a report saying that deportation of Jews before the middle of February, or the beginning of March, were impossible, and it is sofar impossible to say to what extent these deportations will be. We received continuous reports from Berlin asking why and when something will be done concerning these Jewish deportations, and these Jewish measures in France. It was evident that they in Berlin were not satisfied with the work of the Jewish department in France.

Q Document No. 1230 is a letter from Department 4B of the Chief of Security Police. It is again a letter of this special Jewish group, and which now has the reference No. 4B instead of 4J.

A It is a remark or statement on the stand of the Jewish question, and Jewish matters in France, and it also proves once again that this committee of this Jewish department had to solve its own question separately.

Q On page 3930, document No. 1231, is mentioned this letter Oberg to the German Embassy in Paris, concerning the introduction of the Jewish Star. From this can a conclusion be drawn that the SIPO or the Security Police were drawn in in connection with it?

A This document shows that the Embassy was connected with the financial matters on this job. In this talk concerning the introduction of the Jewish Star, Dannecker and Obersturmfuehrer Tiemann also took part. If Oberg speaks here of representative of chief of the Security Police, then it can only be Obersturmfuehrer Tiemann. He belonged to Department III. Dannecker, however, was only through the organization connected with the office of the chief of Security Police.

Q On page 3930, RF 1233, the following document is mentioned: There is a remark of a letter of Dannecker concerning the deportation of Jewish child-

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ren and others.

A It is a remark which Dannecker sent to his co-workers within his Jewish department. According to this letter Eichmann had once again complained concerning the lack, or not sending of Jewish deportation troops. This also blames me, because I was said to have told Bousquet that only stateless Jews were supposed to be deported. It was also especially pointed out that due to this, the work of the Jewish department was made much harder, but that it was not their fault. I remember that at that time the French Government saw some difficulties in deporting Jews of French citizenship, and maybe when Bousquet said that I might have stated, "Why then just take the stateless Jews." I did not have the power to decide concerning this.

Q On that same page is document 1234, which I present to you for your opinion.

A It is a letter of Dannecker concerning his talk with the French delegate of the French Police concerning the Jewish persons. From that it was evident that a representative of Bousquet said that he would take care of all matters on this. This notice was sent to higher SS and Police Leader, my representative, and myself.

Q One more document concerning the Jewish question is document 1235 on page 3931 of the transcript. It is a teletype message of the chief of the Security Police in Lyon to the chief of the Security Police in Paris. From this is the participation of the Security Police in this Jewish matter evident?

A This teletype message is from April 1944. At that time the chief of this Jewish department was in the hands of Hauptsturmfuehrer Brunner.

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From the reference number on the teletype message it is evident that the message was sent by Department 4B in Lyon, and also sent to Department 4B of the Chief of Security Police in Paris. Since Brunner was able, and his commander was able to move all over France without any papers, or without any passes from this headquarter, I believe that they were active in the Lyon area at that time, together with the French police.

Q On page 3932 twelve further documents were presented. That is, Nos. 1238 to 1249. To save time I shall take only one of these, RF 1241, a letter of the Chief of the Army in France, which according to the distribution also was sent to you. What statement do you have to make concerning this?

A This letter is before the naming of the higher SS and Police Leader. In this distribution which was made the chief of Field Police Commission of France is the only one mentioned as yet, and at that time the command of the Security Police had to do nothing at all with the execution of reprisal ~~messages~~ measures. This letter for the execution of these reprisal measures called the district leaders of the military government, and that of the Security Police received it only for information purposes.

Q One last question concerning this phase. Document RF 1228, paragraph 3, it says, "Concerning this it is above all the final solution of the Jewish question in Europe which the Fuehrer and the Reichschancellery wants to reach absolutely." What did you understand the "Final solution of the Jewish question in Europe" meant during this conference at that time? This conference was held on 1 September 1942.

A The drawing together of all Jews in Eastern Europe, and their re-education and retraining for a later immigration.

Q Now I come to a new phase of questioning concerning the killings,

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tortures and mistreatments which the French prosecution claims was done by the Security Police and the Gestapo. On page 3300 of the transcript it is claimed that there are orders from the chief of the German Police, which orders were mistreatment and torturing of prisoners. Were any such orders sent out?

A Never.

Q Did you ever have sent out any orders issued to your subordinate officers?

A No.

Q On page 1702, of the German transcript it says,"In occupied territories more than in the German homeland the higher SS and Police officials were under the supervision of the Security Police and the SD," is that right?

A It is completely wrong. In the occupied territories the higher SS and Police Leader had the final say and final supervision over all questions. The higher SS and Police Leader was in direct consultations with the Army Chief west,and he also had continued discussions with the chief of the Army,the same as in the case of the Embassy. He talked with the Ambassador himself,and due to the fact that for three-quarters of a year there was no chief higher than the Leader of the SS and Police, Himmler, who was directing his SS and Police Leaders even more, and the chiefs of the Security Police and the Police Leaders were subordinate to him.

Q On page 1707 a sworn affidavit of Walter Schellenberg is mentioned, document PS 3033, which states among other things,"In the occupied territories members of Gestapo wear SS uniforms with a SD insignia. New members of the SD and Gestapo were used to carry out orders." What do you understand the meaning of the word "Functionaire" is?

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A May I hear a repetition of that question?

Q It is the underlined part.

A I would say that they had the same job as helpers, of civil service helpers.

Q Were civil service helpers employed in the occupied territories?

A Yes, such as interpreters, and other helpers were occupied in these territories.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Would "Officials" be a ~~direct~~ correct translation?

THE INTERPRETER: No,sir.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: It is "functionaries"

THE INTERPRETER: Functionaries is probably the correct translation.

LT. HARRIS: We have the English,and I do not see where that sentence is referred to.

DR. MERKEL: Maybe we can clear up this question later on.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q On page 3258 is document 415, number 285 --

M. MONNERAY: Is it "PS"?

DR. MERKEL: No. No, it is probably a French number. It only shows here No. 285. It is RF 415. In this affidavit is the speaking of the prison Cherche-Medi.

THE WITNESS: Cherche-Medi was the military prison. It is further over on this page that shows the Fortress Romainville belonged to the Gestapo, and Romainville was the detention camp of the military administration.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q It speaks on page 3289 to 3291,and on page 3626 concerning the detention of the family of John Giraud. Who ordered their arrest?

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A If I remember correctly the order for their arrest came directly from the headquarters of the Fuehrer.

Q On page 3300 and 3301 the prisons of Monluc, Lyon, Marseilles and Poetes are mentioned. Who were responsible for the mistreatments that happened there?

A I only know that when these camps were only detention camps.

Q And on further pages prisons in northern French are mentioned. Can you make any further distinction on that?

A These arrests were out of the area of the Army Chief of France, and, therefore, also out of the area of higher SS and Police Leaders.

Q On page 3305 is document F5161, No. 306. There is mentioned the village called Merignac. Was there there on 21 March an office of the Security Police?

A I can not remember that any such outside office, that is, the only thing it could have been so in Merignac at that time. But, however, I believe that in or around Merignac was a branch, or a detention, or a concentration camp. I heard that at one time.

Q In the same document the Army or detention camp of Bordeaux is mentioned. Was the Security Police connected with that in any way?

A For that, too, the military administration was responsible.

Q Also in the same document is arrest by German Police on 30 April 1942 at Ceroix-Bayonne was mentioned. Who was responsible for that?

A That only could have been the work of the Secret Field Police, or of the Field Police, which was the only unit which had had any executive power until the setting up of higher SS and Police officials.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I think we might take a recess now.

(recess)

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COMMISSIONER:

(Col. Neave replaced Capt. Tubridy as Commissioner.)

COL NEAVE: The Commission will adjourn today at 4:30 P.M. Have you got many more questions, Dr. Merkel?

DR. MERKEL: I thought I might have finished by 5:00.

COL. NEAVE: You cannot possibly get through by 4:30?

DR. MERKEL: I hardly think so, but I will try.

COL. NEAVE: Very well, we might go on now.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q Just one sentence concerning document 3033 PS, the affidavit of Walter Schellenberg. The sentence we were [redacted] in dispute about, runs as follows:

"New members in Gestapo and SD, [redacted] originate on the basis of voluntary membership."

Is this statement in this general form correct?

A No, I only have to think of the transfer of the members of the secret field police, and the military government. Members of both organizations did not volunteer for membership in the security police and SD, but were ordered.

Q I now turn to page 3309 of the record, document RF-563, record No. 308, Mistreatment of the Gestapo members of Bourges are spoken of here. Was there a Gestapo tortune chamber in Bourges as claimed in this document?

A There was a liason office of the security police and SD in Bourges belonging to the Orlean in this district. I knew nothing of any torture chambers or torture instruments whatsoever.

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Q Do you know of any other offices of these organizations that had torture chambers or instruments of torture in France?

A No, and if such chambers had existed, some members of the secret field police or the military government would, at some time or another, have issued complaints or reports on such matters.

Q Was the man called Paoli mentioned in this document a member of the security police or SD?

A The name in itself does not appear to be German. I do not know the name.

Q On page 3313 of the record, mention is made of document 567, number 310, and on page 3314, document 567-E, also 310. Tortures carried out by the German police are spoken of in Bessancon, Belfort, and Dijon. What can you say to that?

A In Bessancon, there was a liason officer of the commandmant of Dijon. I knew nothing of any tortures whatsoever. I believe that mention is also made of police dogs here. I should like to say, in general, that there were no police dogs with security police offices in France.

Q On page 3317, document 690 and 691 are mentioned, numbers 312 and 313. Was there a Gestapo office in Morlaix in May, 1944?

A I do not know that there was any such office in Morlaix. I notice that the names Lt. Pohlmann and Schmitz are mentioned here, and Pohlmann is said to be a member of the rural police here.

Q In 691 there is said, among other things, that French Nationals in Dreux were arrested by the rural police, and tortures were carried out by inspectors of the Gestapo who had partly, evidently, come from Paris. What can you say here?

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A I can only say that if rural police here used methods of torture, it could have only been part of a military measure under military command.

Q Mention is made of transports leaving Compeigne the latter half of August, 1944. Did the security police have a hand in this?

A On 17 August?

Q Yes.

A To this I can say that at that time the command was already under ~~xxxxxx~~ military authorities, and that the ~~xxxxxxx~~ transportation of inmates of Army Detention Institutes and camps were carried out solely by the Army.

Q On page 3317, document 575, number 316, reference is made to the arrest and execution of Lt. Henri Maeeline by a liason office of the Gestapo in Clermont-Ferrand.

A In Clermont-Ferrand there was a liason office of the command of ~~xxxx~~ Vichy. The entire district of Vichy and surrounding areas were guarded by French police and militia, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ in order to protect the French Government from any attacks. The case~~x~~ mentioned here is not known to me.

Q There are persons in this document 316, one man named Verniere, and the other Baudoes, also Gestapo officers Kalteiss and Roth. Are these names known to you?

A No, these people might also be members of the rural police because in the first paragraph, it says that the persons concerned was arrested by rural police.

Q On page 3347, document 457, number 328, it is mentioned that the~~x~~ were measures taken by the Jewish Department. Repeated mention is made of arrests by the Gestapo. What can you say to that?

A The man mentioned here is the director of the Jewish Department, Jewish Special Department. But up to the very last, it was guarded by the French

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gendarmes. The Col. von Berg mentioned here must be a Mr. Von Behr who was director of the Rosenberg office. I should like to mention that he was not Vice President of the Red Cross, but only wore a Red Cross uniform.

Q On page 3352 of the German record, mention is made that in 1943, 78 transports left Compiegne and in 1944, 95 transports. Is that correct?

A That seems to be technically impossible to me, because so far as I know there weren't that many inmates in Compiegne. The railroad station of Compiegne was a transit station through which other labor transports were sent, and these may have been included in the counting. Assuming, for Compiegne, a total number of 50,000 inmates, as it says in the document, this would mean a total of 50 transports at least. I think this number, as a basis, if it were used, would make it impossible for other transports to include inmates of Compiegne.

Q On page 3353 of the German record, document 293, number 330, is mentioned Jewish arrests by the French police, who were interned at the Drancy camp. Would the Security Police have anything to do with this?

A No, the steps taken were taken by the military government in 1941. At the office, those people probably worked together with the French police in working out these directives. The action mentioned in this document was an action taken by the French police.

Q On page 3619 of the German record, document 577, number 315, it is maintained that on 17 August 1944, the German Police in Rodez executed 13 patriots with machine guns. Is that true?

A As far as I know, Rodez is situated in the Drancy area of Southern France. In August, I might say the entire district was already a theater of war. If there had been three or four members of the Security

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Police in Rodez at that time, they would already have been under military command.

Q On the same page, document 580 has been presented as ~~xxx.396xx~~ number 396. It treats of the discoveries of mass graves in the woods of Fontainbleu near Arbonne. Did, ~~x~~ in your opinion, the Security Police have a hand in these executions as far as you can ~~x~~ judge by this document at all?

A I know that in Bretagne there was a liason office ~~in~~ under the command of the Security Police of Paris. No order for such executions could have been given on the part of Security Police.

Q And why not?

A Because such orders were not given.

Q On the same page mention is made of document 584, submitted as number 397. It treats of mass executions in Pont-Long on 6 July 1944. Was this a Security Police action?

A Pont-Long there was no office of the Security Police. Definitely not. I believe that this place is situated in the Bretagne areas of ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ Compiegne and at that time no Security Police members were under Security Police measure, but under military command. The people who were executed were shot on 6 July 1944 by German troops and then it says that a militia unit under the command of Bellegrin buried them.

Q On page 3620, document RF-585, is submitted as number 398. On page 3 mention is made of two German officers called Glotz and Poldt. Who were these Police officers?

A I don't remember such names in connection with the Security Police.

Q The action depicted here took place just prior to the departure of German troops. What is the conclusion that you draw from this fact?

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A This proves that at this time, all members were ordered by military authorities.

Q On the same page, document RF-586 is submitted bearing the number ~~3997~~ 399. A castle of the widowLorient near St. Nazaire is mentioned. Claim is made here that there was a torture chamber of the Gestapo in this chateau. Is that correct?

A In such a small place as St. Nazaire, there definitely was no office of the Gestapp, and I consider it impossible that any members should have had a chateau there. At the beginning of the document, it says that the Germans have left the village. Therefore, presuming that a large number of Germans must have been there and I imagine there must have been troops, for the time mentioned is the beginning of August, and ~~xxx~~ at that time there were considerable troop movements in that area.

Q ~~Xxxxxx~~ If frequent mention is made of torture chambers in this and other documents, and instruments of torture have been found, what can you say to that?

A I can only say that I personally never heard of any such instruments of torture, and that there were no orders concerning them, and that if any individual had been too severcin his measures or used such methods, he would have had to be punished. I consider it impossible that instruments of torture existed. I should only like to point out that for example, the Command of Office IV gave out quarterly instructions saying that during interrogations no severe measures were to be carried out. Therefore, if there had been instruments of ~~xxxxxx~~ torture, it only meant that some member of such an office would have come and reported this!

Q I refer to document RF-699, submitted as number 400, also on page 3620, concerning the murder of 48 members of the ~~Marquis~~ Maquis of Grenoble in August 1944. Was this a measure taken by the Security Police?

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A In August 1944, the area around Niones was definitely a battle area. I do not see in this document that the police has been mentioned as being responsible.

Q On page 3622, document RF-587 is submitted as 401. It treats of the hanging of 12 members of the resistance movement in Niones, on the second of March, 1944. Was this a police measure?

A It says here that the prisoners concerned were arrested by German troops. Mention is then made of the rural police, and then mention is made that the prisoners concerned were Frenchmen who had been tortured by the SS.

Q On page 3622, document RF-591, has been submitted as number 403. It treats of German SS men in Travaux. Did the Secu rity Police have any part in this measure?

A No mention is made here of SS men of the division Adolf Hitler. These people had nothing to do with the Security Police.

Q On page 3644 of the German record, document 611 is submitted as number 419. Mention is made of a police action on 15 June 1944 near St. Donat. Was this an action of the Security Police?

A No, because in the document it is mentioned that airplanes were used and that German troops entered St. Donat. Mention of Gen. Von Neubronn as representative of the Supreme Commander West in Vichy shows that the measures taken here were military ones that can in no way be designated as being police measures.

Q On page 3645 of the German record, I now refer to F-492, number RF-421.

It treats of the murder of 35 Jews in St. Amand near Bourges. On page 1 it says that on 21 July 1944, a lorry arrived from Bourges with a uniformed German and one or two civilians and some French militia men and it

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says further that these men were received by the Chief of the militia of this place. What does this show?

A In my opinion this was a command of the French militia.

Q On page 10, mention id made that a serious skirmish took place between the Franctireurs Et Partisans, and militia men and Germans. What does this prove?

A This proves that this was a battle action.

Q On pages 11 to 14, a large number of French names is mentioned, saying that these people took part in arresting Jews. Can this establish a participation of the Security Police?

A No, not in my opinion.

Q On page 40, mention is made of Frenchmen in German officers' uniforms, What do you say to this?

A This could have been a man who either wore a German uniform illegally, or who was a member of the French militarized SS. But, any members of the militarized SS would not have been abroad individually, or singly, but were stationed in barracks.

Q On page 19 mention is made of Chief of Gestapo Hasser, and of a certain Mr. Schulze, and so on. Do these names mean anything to you?

A Yes, I know a man by the name of Hasser.

Q What was he?

A He may have been stationed in Bourges.

COL. NEAVE: The question was, did he belong to the Security Police?

WITNESS: Yes, he did.

COL. NEAVE: Dr. Merkel, have you finished with this document that he has in his hand?

DR. MERKEL: Yes.

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COL. NEAVE: Then I think that this will be a convenient moment to adjourn. Have you got many more questions?

DR. MERKEL: I need about another half hour.

COL. NEAVE: Then we will continue tomorrow morning at 10:00 o'clock.

(The Commission adjourned at 1630 hours.)

THE foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony of HANS ~~KNOCHEN~~ KNOCHEN, taken on 3 June 1946.

Rose W Cook
Reporter (pp 1-13)

Alice Muhan
Reporter (pp 14-30)

C J Gallagher
Reporter (pp 31-41)

Piilani A. Ahuna
Reporter (pp 42-50)

CERTIFIED TO:

& Joseph F Tubridy
Commissioner

Commissioner

file copy

H0930-0052

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL, DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

Gestapo

GFP. 513

MONDAY, 3 JUNE 1946.

COMMISSIONERS:

Captain Tubridy
Mr. McIlwraith

THE SD

(The Commission convened at 1000 hours.)

DR. KNOCKEN - Resumed
DIRECT EXAMINATION - Continued.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Would you remind the witness he is still under oath?

DR. MERKEL: Mr. Commissioner, I would like to make a short statement concerning the following:

On Saturday we received the first transcripts and we noticed that in the transcript of Jaujochs testimony some wrong sentences, in which the wrong ideas were contained.

For instance, onpage 157 of the transcript, to my question:

"Q. You said previously already that it was not the duty of any department of our RSHA to start border incidents. Is that also concerning Amt 4?"

And in the transcript is the following answer:

"A. No, I don't know any part of Amt 6 that would be responsible for a job like that."

In reality the witness answered:

"A. I didn't know that any such things were taken care of in Amt 4."

By now there are at least eight to ten errors that tend to change the use and ideas of the person who was talking. Therefore, it may be necessary that this witness will have to be heard again. To prevent such cases in the future I request the stenographer in case if they have any doubts or on questions they don't understand some of the things to say that right away. In the transcript before the Court things like that can be cleared up due to the fact that the words are being recorded, whichis not the case here, and because of that the transcript has to be especially exact since it has to be evaluated by the Court, but the Court actually does not hear the

H0930-0053

witnesses themselves and, therefore, cannot change in any way according to the notations that they themselves make.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Mr. Merkel, after examining the transcript, the German transcript, have you noticed any errors in it?

DR. MERKEL: Yes, there are at least ten errors in the German transcript.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: If, after examining the German transcript, if you find any errors, if you will submit a statement of what you believe those errors to be, a statement in writing, we will make a comparison with the English text and then we will make the changes in the German text if we find that the errors existed. Recordings are being taken in both German and English and we will be only too happy to reconcile them.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q I expect to ask the witness, Dr. Knocken, concerning the following: I expect to ask him about the organization duties, their activities and matters of the Sonderkommando amts from 1940 to 1942, and about the duties of the BDS from 1942 to 1944, as far as the security police are concerned; the activites, organization duties and matters of the security field police in the field, gendarmeries and the police and SS leaders in France; cooperation between the security police on the one side and the French police and German army on the other side; the participation of the security police, in the arrest, torture and killing of French citizens in France, and then again concerning the activities in the original cases that were claimed by the Prosecution as being a part of the security police, and when did you come to the security police and the SD?

A In 1937, through a summons I came into the SD. That is to the press part of the SD. Before that, I did

Testapo now Cook.

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not have any connection whatsoever with the SD. In that advisory capacity I was working in the press department of the SD. That was more or less a scientific work, especially concerning the use and possibility of the Reich immigrant and their use. Due to my work with the foreign newspaper and the immigrant newspaper I was transferred to Amt 6. I was in Amt 6 until I was ordered to France. I worked here until I was transferred to Paris in June with the group that worked with the higher SS, the police leader Thomas. He was not the higher SS and police leader but the representative of the chief of the security police, Thomas. He was a representative for Belgium and France. From 1940-1942 these numbered at first only twenty and then forty and then the highest number was about 200 men for all of occupied France. These had no executive powers from 1940 until 1942. With the entering of the higher SS and police leader I was made the chief of the Security Police or SD. With that for the first time I got any connection to any kind of actuel security police work. Up until then I was only working on the information field. Due to that I was immediately received as a representative whose duty it was to take care of all executive orders with the Chief of Amt 4. I remained chief of the Security Police until August, 1944, and then was recalled by Himmler and became an SS with the Waffen SS. In January, 1945, I was recalled from the Waffen SS and transferred back into Amt 6.

Q Who then took care of police work in France before the higher SS and police leader was appointed, that is, in 1940 until 1942?

A The police department of the military government.

Q What departments of the military government that were connected with the military chief worked in that connection?

A The administration department, the command department, with I-A and I-C, and the military courts.

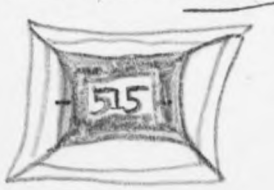
Q Who had executive powers, police executive powers at that time?

A The secret field police and field Gendarmerie.

Q In other words, in this connection, only a German executive?

A Of course, the French police also had executive powers and worked together with the police of the military government.

Q What were the duties of the security field police and the field gendarmerie?



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mult police units

A The security field police first of all had duty with the army units but they were units connected immediately to the army command post and actually it was the executive of the military police and military administration and military abwehr. The same is also the case with the field gendarmerie.

Q Were those units part of the security police or part of the army?

A No, they were military units who were under military court, who wore military uniforms and who were solely under the military command.

Q What position did the chief of the field police have in France and whose jurisdiction was it?

A The chief of the field police constituted the chief of the command and he had under him all of the various field police directives and units.

Q The chief of the commando staff was part of the military headquarters?

A Yes, the chief of the command staff was in charge of the various departments, I-A, I-B and I-C, and constituted the military commanders. He was on a equal basis as the chief of the administration.

Q Is it true that in 1942 the members of the security field police were transferred to the security police and SD?

H0930-0056

A Yes.

Q Can you give us some information about the number of these men, of their formations and whether or not they were volunteers or went into the security police and SD voluntarily or not?

A Twenty-three groups of 100 men each were taken over. In addition to that some members of the staff and at least an approximate 2300 men were ordered transferred to the security police. That, as far as I know, was an agreement between the High Command of the Army and the Chief of the Security Police.

From those 2300 men, 160 of them were formerly members, that i s, before they were called into the army, members of the criminal police or state police.

From these 160 professional policemen about seventy per-cent belonged formerly to the criminal police. Twenty per-cent were members of the administration and about ten per-cent were members ofthe State Police. The mass of these 2300 men were members of the various occupations, teachers and farmers and so on, who were drafted into the army.

These former members of the secret field police nowhad to wear the SS uniform with the SD insignia and also were under the SS jurisdiction.

Q At the same time, besides these members of the security police, also the police groups and members of the military government were taken over?

A Another forty men about were taken over, men who formerly took care of the police questions, both at the police headquarters and with the various command posts throughout France. There were forty of them.

Q And I wish you would answer my last question exactly: Was this a voluntary transfer or was it a transfer resulting from a law or order?

A It was a transfer through orders.

Q Could the various members of the secret field police object to that transfer, that is, if they did not want to be transferred?

A No sir.

Q You were very active from July, 1940, until April, 1942, in France, how at that time was your organization or command?

A This command consisted at first of twenty men and then

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another twenty and it had the job of taking over the various Free masons and Jewish Bureaus, as well as the immigrant bureaus and to take over their archives and to evaluate them.

A The representatives of the chief of the security police, Thomas.

The duty of this command group was a duty of evaluating archives to build up aninformation net without any executive powers. Members of this commando were criminal police, State police, and SD, and none of them had any executive powers whatsoever.

Q What duties went over to the new higher SS and police leaders and what were its principal duties?

A The police duties of the military government went over to the high SS and police leaders. These duties were divided among the security police and the order police through the table of organization which was drawn up by the Reich Security Main Office on one hand, the Order Police Main Office on the other hand.

Q What happened to the duties of the RSHA which could not be divided among these groups?

A These duties were combined into a newly organized office called II Police.

Q Did this group, II Police, have any executive powers?

A No, officials taken over from the police department of the military government were in charge of this department.

Q Under whose jurisdiction was the higher SS and police leaders?

A The higher SS police leader was under the

military commander on about the same level as the Chief of the Commando Staff, that is, he was under the jurisdiction of the military commander concerning all police matters.

H0930-0058

Q Did he also receive any direct orders from Himmler?

A Yes, especially during the time when there was no Chief of the security police from June 1942 to February, 1943. He received continuous orders concerning his duties, for instance, as far as the armed SS and Waffen SS was concerned, and also received orders from Himmler in his capacity as SS chief and chief of police.

Q Did any of these police remain with the military government ?

A Yes.

Q For instance?

A Yes, in the administration of the detention camp in Compiegne and Romainville, the guarding of these camps, the up-keep of these camps, the same was for all army members, army detention camps, that is the army prisoners, to which the German police also sent their prisoners. Also the internment camps remained completely under the military government.

Camps stayed with SS MG.

Q How many police detention camps were there?

A There were two camps at compiegne and Romainville.

Statistics

Q Therefore, how many men did the security Police and SD have?

A The 2300 men taken over from the security field police and an additional 200 men who were in France already. From these 2300 men from the field police, the youngest ones were taken out right away for front duty on the Eastern front.

Q What was the table of organization of the Commanders of the Security Police and their commandants?

A These 2400 or 2500 men were divided into the sections of the commanders of the security police, and to the 16 commandants who also had various outposts. The office of the chief of the security police had about 500 men which included the drivers, stenographers, interpreters and everything else. These 500 men were divided up as follows: About 140 men for the personnel and administration section, that is, departments I and II, and then II Police about twenty men. And for Department III, the SD, that is, in the sense of Amt 3 of the Reich Security Office, had about 40 men. Then Department 4, equal to Amt 4 of the Reich Security Office had about 140 men, with department V, which is equal to Amt 5 of the Reich Security

Office, that is the criminal police, had about 80 men, and department 6, corresponding to Amt 6 of the Reich Security office had also about 80 men. I may point out that in these numbers, all helpers, drivers, clerks and everything has been included. With trained personnel the relation is about as follows:

Members of the Gestapo were about 25; of the criminal police about 50, members of Amt 3 and 6 I combined, about twelve military men and special officials about 15, and the others of those 40 I have mentioned before were either the commanders or were working with the field commanders. I might add that at the same time that these secret field policemen were taken over by the security and SD, that the military police administration was also taken over. In other words, about 415 of the entire group were helpers who formerly did not have anything whatsoever to do with police work. They were soldiers or members of various occupations. May I also point out concerning Department 4, which numbered 140, of these only about 30 or 40 had any executive powers whatsoever, and they only received these executive powers if any cases occured which were important to all of France. The biggest part of the members of Department 4, Gestapo, were active in evaluating information and reporting to the Reich Security Office, Amt

Q Will you give us a brief explanation whether or not the office of the chief of the security police, or it's outside commandos, were voluntary or not?

A The Commandoers always were at the same place as the French regional prefect, and they worked with the police representatives of the regional prefect and also with the regional prefect himself. They also had to report constantly to the representatives of the military field commander, and they had also to report to him.

Q Witness, I do not think you understood my question. All I want to know is whether the office of the chief of the Security police or the various Field Commanders, whether these officers were made up of volunteers or whether they were recruited some other way.

A No, they did not have any chance of volunteering for anything. They were ordered to these various jobs, to their individual posts.

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The ratio personnel of the outside commanders and their offices is about the same, as I have already explained concerning the office of the Chief of the Security Police.

Q What were your duties as chief of the Security Police.

A Mine was the duty of directing the various departments of the Security Police according to the rules and regulations laid down by the Reichs Security Main office. The instructions came from the various departments in the Reichs Main Security Office and I was in charge of the organization and administration of the Security Office.

Q You have already mentioned that the number of members of the Security Police totalled about 2,500 men. In comparison with this, what would you say was the number of French policemen?

A I do not know the exact number of French policemen, while they should be in the Journal Official, I can give you a few local numbers.

Q As for example, the number in Paris?

A The Commander of the Security Police in Paris had about 400 to 450 men, including all helpers, etc. The Order police had only a tiny office in Paris between thirty and fourty men. The French Police, on the other hand, had in Paris about 15,000 uniformed personnel and between 6,000 and 7,000 not uniformed personnel, that is criminal police or other police of that sort.

Q Whom in the German Police had executive powers?

A Department 4 - the Gestapo and Department 5 - the Criminal Police.

Q How was the armament of the Executive Police?

A It was the same armament as the Secret Field Police had. The officers had pistols and the others had carbines.

Q Was the German Police executive the only executive concerning police matters?

A No, the French Police also had executive powers.

Q Was this police executive sufficient?

A No, due to the resistance movement, the executives of the German and French police were not sufficient to safeguard law and order in France.

Q When was this police executive aided or replaced by other executive power?

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A It was replaced when the field commander of that particular area saw that the protection of the troops was not assured any more. He also was in charge of any installation that was under him as the Ministry Chief.

Q For the transportation of prisoners, were military units used?

A Yes, the field police was used constantly to guard prisoners, but the moment the field police appeared the movement was under the order of the military commanders.

Q Were any regulations issued concerning the possibility that the security of the occupational troops was in danger, especially in the case of an invasion and what kind of orders were they?

A These orders were provided and were prepared on the same scale as the mobilization orders. This whole thing was especially prepared and thought up for the expected invasion. If any German Departments were endangered, the entire executive powers was transferred to the army field commander.

Q Do you mean executive of the powers in the field of police work?

A In all such cases the Security Police was subordinate to the Military Commander, the same was also the case for the order police.

Q Who was in charge in combined operations of the army and the police?

A The military group. Even if one officer and ten or twelve gendarmes participated in any action with the police, the executive power immediately went over to the military administration.

Q Who had the responsibility for such actions?

A The Ministry Departments.

Q Did the activities of the German police occur with the consent of the French police?

A Yes.

Q Where were the rules issued in the work between the French and German police?

A The activities of the German and French Police were under the rules of the agreement, which was signed between the higher SS Police leader Oberg and the Chief of the Vichy Police Bonsquet.

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Q How was this agreement arrived upon?

A This agreement was arrived upon after the suggestion for it by the French Police Chief Bonsquet and it was also favorably considered by the French President and Chief of Staff.

Q Will you tell us very shortly about the contents of this agreement?

A The duty of the German Police was to safeguard army units and army institutions against any kind of sabotage, terror acts or espionage. The duty of the French Police was the keeping of law and order and defend against any attacks on French institutions and French departments, especially against left wing units and resistance groups, also the French Police was to defend any German institutions that were attacked or German units and the German Police was in all cases to defend any attack on French institutions and make inquiries concerning same. Only matters of espionage were concerned with the German police and German counter intelligence.

Q Was this agreement between Oberg and Bonsquet also extended to the southern part of France later on?

A Yes.

H0930-0063

Q Was anything changed in the entire field organizations after the occupation of southern France?

A No, at the seat of the French Regional Prefect a German commandant of the Security Police was sent in, as well as a department of the order police.

Q How many newpersonnel came to France after the occupation of southern France?

A None whatsoever. Southern France had to be taken over with these same men who up to now had worked in occupied France. It can be said that after the slightly manned office of the Security Police in the occupied part of France was deprived of power of the men who had to go to Southern France, that the command posts of the Security Police in the various regions were not larger than 80 to 100 men and in a few cases over 100 men who had to take care of an entire region.

Q Was the French Police, according to the agreement between Oberg and Bourquet independent and to what extent did it remain independent?

A The French Police remained independent and the French police was independent, but they had to submit police decrees for publication and also had to submit to the higher SS and Police leaders on the transfer of important police officers.

Q Did the Security Police in France work in cooperation or together with any other police institutions or units in France?

A Yes, they worked together in cooperation with the ministry administration and German embassy, as well as with the Red Cross concerning questions of internment camps and also with the Swiss Embassy also in connection with internment camps and with other offices. For instance, on propaganda matters, with the propaganda staff.

Q How was the recruiting, employment and transportation of the French workers taken care of?

A This question was taken care of by a Labor employment office, with the army administering this office or department working through the German embassy with the French Ministry concerned, which also had created a new department for this. The French Government made up decrees concerning the first voluntary recruitment for labor groups and later on, as far as I know,

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concerning the compulsory recruitment of certain age groups. The executive power in this case was in the hands of the French administration and the French police. If any German Ministry executive powers were used at any time, I would not know. The Security Police was never touched by these questions. I can say that for certain because I know that Sauckel tried to get the German Police connected in some way with this labor recruitment, which, however, was categorically turned down. It had been claimed at one time that Sauckel, with his own executive powers, would administer this labor recruitment in France, but as far as I know this was never done.

Q Who turned down this request from Sauckel?

A It was brought out by the Security Police that a continuation of these labor employment tactics brought with them a strengthening of the maquis and the request from Sauckel was turned down during a discussion in which the Military Command and the Higher SS Police Leader Oberg, as well as the German Ambassador, I believe, took part.

Q Do you know who was sent to Germany to work in concentration camps and who was responsible for that?

A Persons that in any manner had acted against the decrees concerning the security of the army were sent to concentration camps. The rules concerning these executive powers were from Department 4 of the Reichs Main Security Office to the Department 4 of the Security Office in France.

(RECESS)

Q Only those who had taken part in the resistance movement and had been arrested in France were sent to the concentration camps in Germany?

A Yes.

Q Who was in charge of combating the French resistance movement?

A The Security Police, the Ministry Offices of Department 1 and 6 and the Ministry Counter Intelligence office.

Q Did the French Police also take part in this?

A Yes. Without the help of the French police and police organizations of this kind, the program would not have been able to be carried out, for the German police offices did not have even a local office in every capital of a French Department and to say nothing of the smaller cities or villages. The Frontier Customs Protection Police was under the jurisdiction of the

Military Commandant.

Q Did the actions of the resistance movement turn out to be a real danger to the German troops in France?

A Yes.

Q Why was not France declared a banded territory?

A The reports of the Security Police always stressed the fact that the French Government, the French Administration and Police carried on their work, This was a fact that pointed to giving security to the French people, but one could not speak of banded groups as such, but later as terrorist groups and thus the steps that the higher authorities wanted to take and declare France a banded territory were prevented and all the things pertaining to such a declaration and the unpleasantness that such a declaration would have brought along with it. There was a very large distinction in the various resistance and terror-

ist groups. There were groups for instance who carried out attacks and were also a menace to the French population. These people usually lived in the country and tried to evade recruitment for labor employment. Other terrorists were of a particular character, there was also a distinction in these groups. Some were adherents of DeGaulle, others of Giraud and other groups who were of a leftist character. All of these groups received a single leadership aim and objective only in the course of time.

Q Who was competent for carrying out arrests in France?

A Departments 4 and 5 of the Security Police and the Rural Police.

Q According to what directions were arrests and transfers into Military Detention Institutions and camps carried out?

A As far as Departments 4 and 5 were concerned, the directives of the Reich Main Security Office, as far as the rural police were concerned, the Ministry Counter Intelligence.

Q Were the terms for protective custody known in France?

A Yes, but approval and decision in all cases lay in the hands of the Reichs Main Security Office.

Q Were their Security Police prisons in France?

A No, there were only the so-called military detention institutions that remained always under the jurisdiction of the military authorities.

Q Were they also under the jurisdiction of the Military Command as entries were made by the Security Police?

A Yes, all questions such as questions of food, etc., were taken care of by the Military Government and soldiers.

Q Did the Security Police have any hand in guarding these institutions?

A In no way.

Q Who transported the prisoners of Compeigne to Germany?

A Compeigne was also administrative and was guarded by the army. The actual removal of these prisoners from the camp was taken care of by the Military authorities, but the train transport was in thehands of regular uniformed police. As far as I remember, at the German frontier, the guarding of these trains was taken over by German citizen groups as there were not enough police in France to take care of the matter ofwatching and guarding the prisoners.

H0930-0066

Q Were reprisal measures taken against the French population?

A Yes.

Q Of what did these reprisal measures consist?

A These reprisal measures consisted of imposing curfews and shorter curfew hours, the closing of theaters and cinemas. The population had to guard cable lines and telephone lines where acts of sabotage had occurred.

Q Were any shootings carried out within the reprisal measures?

A Yes.

Q Who ordered the shootings?

A I am not speaking of the measures that were taken after the higher SS and Police Fuehrer was introduced. These shootings were ordered either personally by Hitler or by the Army High Command. I am not sure which. The Army High Command received actual reports from all offices concerning acts of sabotage carried out. These offices included the Ministry Office, the chief of the air force, the chief of thenavy office and police. Himmler gave continual reports of any acts of sabotage. The Army High Command, over the Fuehrer's headquarters, gave orders for shootings and these shootings were to be carried out by the Military Command and the Higher SS and the Police Fuehrer.

Q Did the Security Police, as an organization, have anything to do with the shooting of hostages in France?

A Yes, Department 4. By order of Oberg, all those who were in protective custody thru Three had to be named and along with those men who had already been sentenced by military courts were to be executed and othernamed groups had to be made up. The higher SS and Police Fuehrer would have the men mentioned in these groups executed by commands of the regular uniformed police. The Security Police had nothing to do with this execution as such.

Q Do you know actually which commands took part in theexecution and who actually had a hand in theexecutions?

A This commandant was a command under the chief of the regular uniformed police and I cannot say anything about this command.

Q Do you know for certain if members of the Security Police had any hand in these shootings or not?

A I do not know of any members of the Security Police who took part in

H0930-0067

such executions. I have to say though that Department 2 POA did receive a list of these people who had been in protective custody group three, together with a list of the people who had been sentenced by a military court, and they had to call for theProtestant and Catholic priests when such executions were to be carried out, therefore Office 2 POA had to take care of such administrative matters in the frame work of the executions as department 2 POA was a department handling all matters of police administration and regulations under theoffice of the Higher SS and Police Fuehrer.

Q Do you know which persons were selected to be executed as hostages?

A Within this group - Protective Custody 3 - there were only such people who had been proven to have committed an act ofsabotage or assassinations or measures directed against the military Government and these persons would have

H0930-0068

H0930-0069

been sentenced to death in any case. These were the regulations as far as I know concerning Protective Custody Group 3. For example, no inmates of Compeigne were ever selected for execution.

Q Why not?

A Because in Compeigne there were only inmates of Protective Custody Groups 1 and 2.

Q You said before that the Prisoners of protective Custody Group consistedof only those who had taken part in acts of sabotage and resistance against the military occupying power. What was considered proof that a person had taken part in such a crime?

A The confession or admission of the prisoner. Before the execution these cases were again re-examined very carefully.

Q By whom?

A By the higher SS and Police Fuehrer. I myself never took part in these matters, but I know there were such cases.

Q Neither you, nor your office, took any part in these matters?

A Only the director of Department 4 presented these facts to the higher SS Police Fuehrer and my deputy whose special mission it was to carry out this execution. The Security Police never carried out these reprisal measures or executions.

Q How many executions took place in carrying out these reprisal measures?

A If I remember correctly, two executions in 1942, one in August and one in September and one in October of 1943.

Q How many persons were liquidated?

A I believe the first execution comprised 50 men, the second 60 men, and the third 90 men, but I cannot say that these numbers are exact. I can only give an estimate.

Q Were ever more people executed than had been ordered to be executed?

A No. On the contrary I know that there was not a sufficient number of prisoners who could have been named for such execution.

Q Was the German police in France generally known in France as the Gestapo, the Sipo and the SD?

H0930-0070

A Yes.

Q When you testified in your answers to the defense lawyer for the SD, you said that certain Frenchmen pretended to be members of the SD. Is this also true of the Gestapo that Frenchmen termed themselves to be members of the Gestapo?

A Yes.

Q In order to carry on illegal activities?

A Yes and cases were also known where this was true of Germans.

Q In order to save time, I want to summarize my questions concerning the participation of the Gestapo conspiracy this way. Do you know whether the members of the Security Police or the organization of the Security Police in France had any hand in the conspiracy.

A No.

Q Did the Security Police in France have anything to do with the immigration of Jews?

A Yes, through the Commander Dannecker, which was immediately subordinate to Amt.4 of the Reichs Main Security Office.

Q Was this Jewish Department a Department like the other Departments of Amt. 4 and were under the jurisdiction of Dep artment 4?

A No this office was not under the jurisdiction of Department 4 like theother departments of 4 were under the jurisdiction of Directum 4. The Jewish Department received its orders from Eichman in Berlin.

Q What measured did the French Government take in connection with the Jewish measures?

A The French Government published various laws concerning the Jewish question. The French Government appointed a Jewish Commissioner and the French Government had a so-called special Jewish Police that concerned itself with the Jewish questions. The camp in Tra ncy and several other camps were managed and guarded by the French Government.

Q Did the Security Police play any part in the election or administration of this camp?

A No. Department 2 POL ordinarily carried on negotiations and was in touch with he camp in Trancy and other internment camps. I don't know what influence this special command had on this particular camp.

. C . Were there transports to Trancy and from Trancy to Germany organized by the Security Police?

A I remember that up to the summer of 1942 2 POL had no executive capacity and such transports were carried through by the rural police. The Security Police as such never carried out any such transports. There would not have been sufficient personnel to do so. I do know that the French Government and police were eager to see to it that these measures were carried out by the French police. I do not know of any transports at one time or another that had been carried out by the Security Police. After Dannecker had been recalled, very little happened for several months on the question of Jewish transports. In May and June of 1943 a new appointee called Brunner came to the Department, and was to carry out once more the execution of this question together with the French Government. During Brunner's time there was no par-

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ticipation by the Security Police because after Brunner came to France he had a much more powerful position. He brought along his own men and own cars and acted completely indépendantly.

Q I should now like to submit some documents to you and discuss them with you. Documents, which were submitted by the French Prosecution, to prove that the Security Police had a hand in this. Please confine yourself as briefly as possible to that which is absolutely essential.

On Page 3912 of the German Record, Doc. RF 1203, it sa "The Reichshauptfuehrer SS and the Chief of German Police in the Reichministry of the Interior has ordered that generally all Jewish extradiction from Germany and the occupied territory is not to take place." The prosecution wants to prove by means of this Document the cooperation of the Army and the German Police, is that correct?

A Document is of the time before the institution of the Higher SS and Police Fuehrer. All questions of police administrative and executive matters were at that time handled directly by the German Police and Military Government. This was a subject matter pertaining to the work of the Military Government.

Q On Page 3920 of the German Record, Document RF 1210 mention is made to prove that the German Office cooperated in handling the Jewish question. Please state your opinion.

A This is a report by Rosenberg and by Dannecker, which shows that Dannacker and his office permanently and directly cooperated with the Military Command, with the German embassy and with the action group. Rosenberg and the various offices mentioned had issued the compulsory decrees and carried on negotiations with the French authorities. Considering the directives that Dannecker received from Berlin he made various proposals here in order to creat an office, which was to concern itself with this Jewish question.

Q On Page 3922 of Document RF 1211 mention is made of a letter from the Military Commander in France to the General Plenipotentiary of the French Government. The next two paragraphs mentioned the raising of a sum of one hundred million francs imposed

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on the Jews as a reprisal measure and the deportation of forced labor from France. Does this Document show any participation of the Security Police in these measures?

A No, for in the year 1941 the Security Police had not executive power at all in France. The reprisal matters mentioned here are purely a military matter at that time, as I have already said. The Secret Field Police and the Rural Police were the only executive organization of the police. This is concerned with the administrative staff.

Q On the same page, Document RF 12 is mentioned a letter from the Military Commander to the office of Military Commar ant Harris, deputy to the Chief of the Security Police and SD in Pari concerning the deportation of Jews and Bolshevik elements for purposes of enforced labor in the East. What can you say to this?

A This letter was also written before the institution of the office of the Higher SS and Police leader. The entire executive power was in the military hands insofar as the Jewish question was involved. Here Dannecker asked to voice an opinion.

Q On the same page, Document RF 1213 is mentioned an order to the Military Commander in France by a Department concerning deportation of Jews and Bolshevik elements for purposes of enforced labor. Does this show a responsibility of the Security Police in these measures?

A This is evidently the answer to the Document just submitted to me and refers to the aforementioned conferences with Dannecker and other German offices and again shows that Dannecke was in constant touch with these offices.

Q8 On the same page, Document RF 1215 is mentione which is a teletype to the Commander in Chief of District A. Did th Security Police participate in this?

A No, this is an instruction issued by the Military Government. The Chiefs of the Military Government in a district are immediately subordinate to the Military Government.

Q In regard to the Chief of District A, does

A No.

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that mean an office of the Security Police.

A No.

Q On Pages 3922 and 3923, Documents RF 1215, 1216 and 1217 are mentioned. Both Documents have been submitted to you for your opinion. Can any responsibility of the Military Police be drawn from these documents?

A Document 1216 proves that Dannecker was directly subordinate to Eichman. The report was made by me and my deputy because all offices in Paris were concerned with this work, but it is only a matter of having taken note of this business. Many other offices were concerned with this matter. Document 1217 also proves the independence of Dannecker and being an immediate subordinate to Eichman. Again this Document informs me of a conference that took place in the Reichs Main Security Office, attended by Dannecker and his appointees, as did Document 1216. These documents pass on orders that Eichman had issued to his deputy and appointees.

Q The next Document, RF 1218, refers to page 3924 of the German text con-

cerns an order from Eichman to Dannecker on June 11, 1942.

A. This document again proves that Dannecker reported immediately to Eichman and also mentions Eichman's personal order to Dannecker. Hauptsturnfuehrer Dannecker negotiated independantly with Lt. Gen. Kohl, who was the first chief of transport matters, asking him to place a certain amount of transport space at his disposal.

Q. On the same page, the next Document mentioned is RF 1219. It contains a claim of Dr. Knochen of June 15 1942. I should like to ask the Prosecution to submit the original to the Witness, as I know the Document is 3 pages but I have only 2 pages. Is any responsibility of the Security Police established by the Document and is this Document signed by you?

A. No, the Document is signed by Dannecker.

Q. What about the reference number?

A. The Document bears Dannecker's dictation sign and it is signed by Dannecker. I myself wrote a note on the Document and the Document was submitted to me as it states in the Document. Evidently Dannecker made promises in Berlin, which could not be carried out in practice. This is also shown by the fact that the General whom I mentioned had to give a negative answer to the transport question. According to Dannecker, these orders were always orders by Himmler and Eichman. I, myself, could not interfere here. In all these matters where the Jewish question was concerned, there was experienced a bad public opinion similar to that which I explained after Saukel's actions and measures concerning labor enforcement work being carried out. Because I knew that the question of transport was a very delicate one at the time, I took steps to see that the transport questions was solved decently. Because some deputy from the office had to carry out his special program, therefore, I spoke to Dept. Group 3 of the SD. This is the group that concerned itself with economic questions.

(THE COMMISSION RECESSED AT 1300 HOURS)

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AFTERNOON SESSION

(The hearing reconvened at 1400 hours, 3 June 1946)

DR. KNOCHEN - resumed.
DIRECT EXAMINATION - continued.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Will you remind the witness that he is still under oath.

THE WITNESS: Yes.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I think we can proceed now.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q. I give the witness the transcript, and will he give his opinion?

A. (Witness looks at document) After the completion of the main conference, that is, of the traffic question, a report to be delivered to the higher SS and Police Leader Dannecker, also had consultations with the Commandant of Field Police. In the remarks Dannecker stated that one representative of each police command should come to Paris in order to get new rules and regulations. I therefore said that any point I cannot completely clear up should be represented to the higher SS and Police for his decision.

Q. I give the witness the Document No. 1220.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Will you wait just a minute please. Mr. Monnoray, you had an objection in connection with the examination of this witness on the document which was just completed

MR. MONNERAY: No objection.

DR. MERKEL: There are no new documents. All of these documents already have been presented by the prosecution.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Yes, I understand. My question was in connection with a statement that Mr. Monnoray made just before we recessed.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q. This No.1220 is a letter of the German Embassy to the Commander of the SIPO, the Security Police in France concerning

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the deportation of Jews. Referring to this deportation can you tell from this letter the participation of the Security Police as such be noted.

A. This is proof ~~bs~~ not only that Dannecker talked with the German representative of the German Embassy on those Tuesday conferences, but also that he was in conference at times directly with the German representative Rahn, concerning these deportations. In this letter is a discussion with Dannecker, and tells Dannecker when to appear at the Embassy to receive, and also his discussion of the German representative Rahn, or Ambassador Abetz with Laval. If this letter is addressed to the Chief of Security Police, it only means that it actually was directed to a part of the Security Police.

Q. A department of Dannecker's, which was connected with the Security Police, the document R-1222 on page 3926 of the transcript is presented to you for your information to give your opinion. What do you have to say concerning this?

A. If the security commando was used for a guarding of one of those deportations, it is evident that they were used one single time, then they were used as a rule for the French police, because so far as I know all papers concerning the number of Jews still deported were solely with the French Jewish Commissioners that was organized solely for this purpose. I don't know of any constant members who were solely working on the Jewish question. If Dannecker spoke on any of these points, the only way I can explain is that the vice-commanders, or some other members of these

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commissions out in the various French regions were sent to Paris in order to get the new rules and regulations. Of this measure my representative and myself were informed.

Q On page 3927, Exhibit No. 1223, a discussion or conference between Eichmann and Dannecker is mentioned concerning the evacuation of the Jews.

A This document proves the best relationship between Eichmann and Dannecker, and also the fact that Dannecker was subordinated to Eichmann. Eichmann was in Paris, and therefore at the official conference. I was told at this conference between Eichmann of the general orders from Himmler, and also told that the French Government was supposed to help us with these names. I told Eichmann at that time of the various hardships, or the various difficulties into which we would run, and also especially of the difficulties that we would have at that time known when occupied by the defense. That also can be read between the lines. The actual duties and measures to be taken were discussed directly between Eichmann and Dannecker, and as it says here in the document "Thoroughly discussed". These single various instructions are also mentioned to be such in the second paragraph of the remarks. That remark or statement was one where the notice was signed by both Dannecker and Eichmann.

Q I now come to the document which I consider very important, No. 1225 on page 3927 of the transcript. It is a statement concerning a conference on 6 July 1942, in which you took part. I especially point out the first and second paragraphs of this letter, or remark. Will you please give me your opinion concerning this.

A The previous document shows that Eichmann himself was in Paris, and was there 30 June and 1st July 1942. The conference with the representatives of the various Security Police commandos was followed during his presence in Paris as I see from this note, for he was in Paris at that time. The last document shows that the French Government was supposed to prepare a further deportation of Jews, but that was an order by Himmler to Eichmann who then sent it to France, that is, to Dannecker to be carried out in

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France. At that time I was ordered by the Higher SS and Police Leader to conduct a conference with Bousquet in place of Dannecker. I believe at that time the higher SS and Police Leader was not able to come to this afternoon's conference with the French President Laval, because he sent with me that afternoon his personal representative to that conference. During that conference I only made the opening remarks, and later on the actual discussion of the various points and matters were carried out by Dannecker. From this letter it is evident that both Marshal Petain and President Laval, before the recently organized group of representatives, declared themselves ready to first of all have all stateless Jews in occupied and unoccupied France deported. In the afternoon the points which Dannecker had presented to Bousquet in the morning were discussed, and made clear to Laval.

Q On page 3927, No. 1226, is another letter concerning the deportation of Jews to Auschwitz?

A This letter contains a presentation by Eichmann concerning the fact that the deportation of Jews was not going ahead smoothly. Eichmann wants once more to go to the chief of Amt IV concerning this. It also is stated here that it was not the fault of Dannecker's department that this group of deportees were not sent, because he had received a report from Bordeaux that there were only 150 stateless Jews down there that very date. This representation by Eichmann was only made to Dannecker.

Q On page 3928, Document No. 1227, and Document No. 1228 is mentioned. In Document 1228 is remarked in the third paragraph that SS Brigadefuehrer Oberg, and SS Standartenfuehrer Knochen, that they would concerning this question talk to the French department connected with this. From that you can draw an opinion that these anti-Jewish actions were part of the SIPO and Security Police work?

A As to Document F-1228, this document proves that Dannecker independently conferred with the French officials concerning these matters, and that in part of the French department it was said that in these searches for Jews French police were used. Dannecker tells in this letter,

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for the information of myself, my representative, and the higher SS and Police Leaders, that in comparison with the other European countries, only a few Jews were deported from France. Therefore, he says that his ideas, or that his suggestions should be carried out and aided as much as possible; and he also says that himself, with myself and Oberg were supposed to talk to the French official concerning this matter. This document also shows that Dannecker discussed this question minutely with a representative of Bousquet. The document No. 1227 is a remark or statement by the special Jewish representative to the higher SS and Police Leader.

Q Document No. 1229 is a letter signed by you to the Reich Security Main Office. It is concerning also the deportation of Jews.

A It is a teletype message. It was sent out by me in answer to a teletype from Eichmann's office. In order to explain this message I'll have to add that Dannecker was recalled from Paris in, I believe, September 1942. It was for disciplinary reasons. The next few months, if I remember correctly, nothing definite was done concerning the Jewish matters, because in November was the occupation of southern France. I signed this teletype mes-

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sage due to the fact that I believed that the Jewish department, concerning themselves with Jewish matters, had written directly to me. I sent back a report saying that deportations of Jews before the middle of February, or the beginning of March, were impossible, and it is sofar impossible to say to what extent these deportations will be. We received continuous reports from Berlin asking why and when something will be done concerning these Jewish deportations, and these Jewish measures in France. It was evident that they in Berlin were not satisfied with the work of the Jewish departmant in France.

Q Document No. 1230 is a letter from Department 4B of the chief of Security Police. It is again a letter of this special Jewish group, and which now has the reference No. 4B instead of 4J.

A It is a remark or statement on the stand of the Jewish question, and Jewish matters in France, and it also proves once again that this committee of this Jewish department had to solve its own question separately.

Q On page 3930, document No, 1231, is mentioned this letter Oberg to the German Embassy in Paris, concerning the introduction of the Jewish Star. From this can a conclusion be drawn that the SIPO or the security Police were drawn in in connection with it?

A This document shows that the Embassy was connected with the financial matter on this job. In this talk concerning the introduction of the Jewish Star, Dannecke and Obersturmfuehrer Tiemann also took part. If Oberg speaks here of representives of chief of the security Police, then it can only be Obersturmfuehrer Tiemann.

He belonged to Department 111. Dannecker, however, was only through the organization connected with the office of the chief of Security Police.

Q On page 3930, RF 1232, the following document is mentioned: There is a remark of a letter of Dannecker concerning the deportaion of Jewish children and others.

A It is a remark which Dannecker sent to his co-workers within his Jewish department. According to this letter Eichmann had once again complained concerning the lack, or not sending Jewish deportation troops. This also blames me, because I was said to have told Bousquet that only stateless Jews were supposed to be deported. It was also especially pointed out that due to this, the work of the Jewish department was much harder, but that it was not their fault. I remember that at that time the French Government saw some difficulties in deporting Jews

of French citizenship, and maybe when Bousquet said that I might have stated, "Why then just take the stateless Jews." I did not have the power to decide concerning this.

Q On that same page is document 1234, which I present to you for your opinion.

A It is a letter of Dannecker concerning his talk with the French delegate of the French Police concerning the Jewish persons. From that it was evident that a representative of Bousquet said that he would take care of all matters on this. This notice was sent to higher SS and Police Leader, my representative, and myself.

Q One more document concerning the Jewish question is document 1235 on page 3931 of the Transcript. It is a teletype message of the chief of the security police in Lyon to the chief of the Security Police in Paris. From this is the participation of the Security Police in this Jewish matter evident?

A This teletype message is from 1944. At that time the chief of this Jewish department was in the hands of Hauptsturmfuehrer Brunner. From the reference number on the teletype message it is evident that the message was sent by department 4B in Lyon, and also sent to Department 4B of the Chief of Security Police in Paris. Since Brunner was able, and his commander was able to move all over France without any papers, or without any passes from this headquarters, I believe that they were active in the Lyon area at that time, together with the French Police.

Q On page 3932 twelve further documents were presented. That is, Nos. 1238 to 1249. To save time I shall take only one of these, RF 1241, a letter of the Chief of the Army in France, which according to the distribution also was sent to you. What statement do you have to make concerning this?

A This letter is before the naming of the higher SS and Police Leader. In this distribution which was made the chief of Field Police Commission of France is the only one mentioned as yet, and at that time the command of the Security Police had to do nothing at all with the execution of reprisal measures. This letter for the execution of these reprisalsmeasures called the district leaders of the military Government, and that of the security Police received it only for information purposes.

Q One last question concerning this phase. Document RF 1228, paragraph 3, it says, "Concerning this it is above all the final solution of the Jewish question in Europe which the Fuehrer and the Reichschancellory wants to reach absolutely."

What did you understand the "Final solution of the Jewish question in Europe" meant during this conference at that time? This conference was held on 1 Septembe 1942.

A The drawing together of all Jews in Eastern Europe, and their re-education and re-training for a later immigration.

Q Now I come to a new phase of questioning concerning the killings, tortures and mistreatments which the French prosecution claims was done by the Security Police and Gestapo. On page 3300 of the Transcript it is claimed that there are orders from the chief of the German Police, which orders were mistreatment and torturing of prisoners. Were any such orders sent out?

A Never.

Q Did you ever have sent out any orders issued to you subordinate officers?

A No.

Q On Page 1702, of the German Transcript it says "In occupied territories more than in the German homeland the higher SS and Police Officials were under the supervision of the Security Police and the SD," is that right?

A It is completely wrong, In the occupied territories the higher SS and Police Leader had the final say and final supervision over all questions. The higher SS and Police Leader was in direct consultations with the Army Chief west, and he also had continued discussions with the chief of the Army, the same as in the case of the Embassy. He talked with the Ambassador himself, and due to the fact that for three-quarters of a year there was no chief higher than the Leader of the SS and Police, Himmler, who was directing his SS and Police Leaders even more, and the chiefs of the Security Police and the Police Leaders were subordinate to him.

Q On page 1701 a sworn affidavit of Walter Schellenberg is mentioned, document PS 3033, which states among other things, "In the occupied territories members of Gestapo wear SS uniforms with a SD insignia, New members of the SD and Gestapo were used to carry out orders," What do you understand the meaning of the word ""Functionaire" is?

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A. May I hear a repetition of that question?

Q. It is the underlined part.

A. I would say that they had the same job as helpers, of civil service helpers.

Q. Were civil service helpers employed in the occupied territories?

A. Yes, such as interpreters, and other helpers were occupied in these territories.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Would "Officials" be a correct translation?

THE INTERPRETER: No, sir.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: It is "functionaries".

THE INTERPRETER: Functionaries is probably the correct translation.

LT. HARRIS: We have the English, and I do not see where that sentence is referred to.

DR. MERKEL: Maybe he can clear up this question later on.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q. On page 3258 is document 415, number 285 --

M. MONNERAY: Is it "PS"?

DR. MERKEL: No. No, it is probably a French number. It only shows here No. 285. It is RF 415. In this affidavit is the speaking of the prison Cherche-Medi.

THE WITNESS: Cherche-Medi was the military prison. It is further over on this page that shows the Fortress Romainville belonged to the Gestapo, and Romainville was the detention camp of the military administration.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q. It speaks on page 3289 to 3291, and on page 3626 concerning the detention of the family of John Giraud. Who ordered their arrest?

A. If I remember correctly the order for their arrest came directly from the headquarters of the Fuehrer.

Q. On page 3300 and 3301 the prisons of Monluc, Lyon, Marseilles and Poetes are mentioned. Who were responsible for the mistreatments that happened there?

A. I only know that when these camps were only detention camps.

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Q. And on further pages prisons in northern French are mentioned. Can you make any further distinction on that?

A. These arrests were out of the area of the Army Chief of France, and, therefore, also out of the area of higher SS and Police Leaders.

Q. On page 3305 is document F5161, No 306. There is mentioned the village called Merignac. Was there there on 21 March an office of the Security Police?

A. I can not remember that any such outside office, that is, the only thing it could have been so in Merignac at that time. But, however, I believe that in or around Merignac was a branch, or a detention, or a concentration camp. I heard that at one time.

Q. In the same document the Army or detention camp of Bordeaux is mentioned. Was the Security Police connected with that in any way?

A. For that, too, the military administration was responsible.

Q. Also in the same document is arrest by German Police on 30 April 1942 at Ceroix-Bayonne was mentioned. Who was responsible for that?

A. That only could have been the work of the Secret Field Police, or of the Field Police, which was the only unit which had had any executive power until the setting up of higher SS and Police officials.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I think we might take a recess now.

(Col. Neave replaced Capt. Tubridy as Commissioner.)

COLONEL NEAVE: The Commission will adjourn today at 4.30 P.M. Have you got many more questions, Dr. Merkel?

DR. MERKEL: I thought I might have finished by 5.00.

COLONEL NEAVE: You cannot possibly get through by 4:30?

DR. MERKEL: I hardly think so, but I will try.

COLONEL NEAVE: Very well, we might go on now.

BY DR. MERKEL:

Q. Just one sentence concerning document 3033 PS, the affidavit of Walter Schellenberg. The sentence we were in dispute about, runs as follows:

"New members in Gestapo and SD, originate on the basis of voluntary membership."

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Is this statement in this general form correct?

A. No, I only have to think of the transfer of the members of the secret field police, and the military government. Members of both organizations did not volunteer for membership in the security police and SD, but were ordered.

Q. I now turn to page 3309 of the record, document RF-563, record No.308, Mistreatment of the Gestapo members of Bourges are spoken of here. Was there a Gestapo torture chamber in Bourges as claimed in this document?

A. There was a liaison office of the security police and SD in Bourges belonging to the Orlean in this district. I knew nothing of any torture chambers or torture instruments whatsoever.

Q. Do you know of any other offices of these organizations that had torture chambers or instruments of torture in France?

A. No, and if such chambers had existed, some members of the secret field police or the military government would, at some time or another, have issued complaints or reports on such matters.

Q. Was the man called Paoli mentioned in this document a member of the security police or SD?

A. The name in itself does not appear to be German. I do not know the name.

Q. On page 3313 of the record, mention is made of document 567, number 310, and on page 3314, document 567-E, also 310. Tortures carried out by the German police are spoken of in Bessancon, Belfort, and Dijon. What can you say to that?

A. In Bessancon, there was a liaison officer of the commandmant of Dijon. I knew nothing of any tortures whatsoever. I believe that mention is also made of police dogs here. I should like to say, in general, that there were no police dogs with security police offices in France.

Q. On page 3317, document 690 and 691 are mentioned, numbers 312 and 313. Was there a Gestapo office in Morlaix in May, 1944?

A. I do not know that there was any such office in Morlaix. I notice that the names Lt. Pohlmann and Schmitz are mentioned here, and Pohlmann is said to be a member of the rural police here.

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Q. In 691 there is said, among other things, that French Nationals in Dreux were arrested by the rural police, and tortures were carried out by inspectors of the Gestapo who had partly, evidently, come from Paris. What can you say here?

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A I can only say that if rural police here used methods of torture, it could have only been part of a military measure under military command.

Q Mention is made of transports leaving Compiegne in the latter half of August 1944. Did the security police have a hand in this?

A On 17 August?

Q Yes.

A To this I can say that at that time the command was already under military authorities, and that the transportation of inmates of Army Detention Institutes and camps were carried out solely by the Army

Q On page 3317, document 575, number 316, reference is made to the arrest and execution of Lt. Henri Maeeline by a liaison office of the Gestapo in Clermont-Ferrand.

A In Clermont-Ferrand there was a liaison office of the command of Vichy. The entire district of Vichy and surrounding areas were guarded by French police and militia, in order to protect the French Government from any attacks. The case mentioned here is not known to me.

Q There are persons in this document 316, one man named Verniere, and the other Baudoes, also Gestapo officers Kalteiss and Roth. Are these names known to you?

A No, these people might also be members of the rural police because in the first paragraph, it says that the person concerned was arrested by rural police.

Q On page 3347, document 457, number 328, it is mentiondd that these were measures taken by the Jewish Department. Repeated mention is made of arrests by the Gestapo. What can you say to that?

A The man mentioned here is the director of the Jewish Department, Jewish Special Department. But up to the very last, it was guarded by the French gendarmes. The Col. von Berg mentioned here must be a Mr. von Behr who was director of the Rosenberg office. I should like to mention that he was not Vice President of the Red Cross, but only wore a Red Cross uniform.

Q On page 3352 of the German record, mention is made that in 1943, 78 transports left Compiegne and in 1944, 95 transports. Is that correct?

A That seems to be technically impossible to me, because so far as I know there weren't that many inmates in Compiegne. The railroad station of

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Compiegne was a transit station through which other labor transports were sent, and these may have been included in the counting. Assuming, for Compiegne, a total number of 50,000 inmates, as it says in the document, this would mean a total of 50 transports at least. I think this number, as a basis, if it were used, would make it impossible for other transports to include inmates of Compiegne.

Q On page 3353 of the German record, document 293, number 330, is mentioned Jewish arrests by the French police, who were interned at the Drancy camp. Would the Security Police have anything to do with this?

A No, the steps taken were taken by the military government in 1941. At the office, thosepeople probably worked together with the French police in working out these directives. The action mentioned in this document was an action taken by the French police.

Q On page 3619 of the German record, document 577, number 315, it is maintained that on 17 August 1944, the German Police in Rodez executed 13 patriots with machine guns. Is that true?

A As far as I know, Rodez is situated in the Drancy area of Southern France. In August, I might say the entire district was already a theater of war. If there had been three or four members of the Security Police in Rodez at that time, they would already have been under military command.

Q On the same page, document 580 has been presented as number 396. It treats of the discoveries of mass graves in the woods of Fontainebleau near Arbonne. Did, in your opinion, the Security Police have a hand in these executions as far as you can judge by this document at all?

A I know that in Bretagne there was a liaison office under the command of the Security Police of Paris. No order for such executions could have been given on the part of Security Police.

Q And why not?

A Because such orders were not given.

Q On the same page mention is made of document 584, submitted as number 397. It treats of mass executions in Pont-Long on 6 July 1944. Was this a Security Police action?

A Pont-Long there was no office of the Security Police. Definitely

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not. I believe that this places is situated in the Bretagne areas of Compiegne and at that time no Security Police members were under Security Police measure, but under military command. The people who were executed were shot on 6 July 1944 by German troops and then it says that a militia unit under the command of Bellegrin buried them.

Q On page 3620, document RF-585, is submitted as number 398. On page 3 mention is made of two German officers called Glotz and Poldt. Who were these Police officers?

A I don't remember such names in connection with the Security Police.

Q The action depicted here took place just prior to the departure of German troops. What is the conclusion that you draw from this fact?

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A This proves that at this time, all members were ordered by military authorities.

Q On the same page, document RF-586 is submitted bearing the number 399. A castle of the widow Lorient near St Nazaire is mentioned. Claim is made here that there was a torture chamber of the Gestapo in this chateau. Is that correct?

A In such a small place as St. Nazaire, there definitely was no office of the Gestapo, and I consider it impossible that any members should have had a chateau there. At the beginning of the document, it says that the Germans have left the village. Therefore, presuming that a large number of Germans must have been there and I imagine there must have been troops, for the time mentioned is the beginning of August, and at that time there were considerable troop movements in that area.

Q If frequent mention is made of torture chambers in this and other documents, and instruments of torture have been found, what can you say to that?

A. I can only say that I personally never heard of any such instruments of torture, and that there were no orders concerning them, and that if any individual had been too sever in his measures or used such methods, he would have had to be punished. I consider it impossible that instruments of torture existed. I should only like to point out that for example, the Command of Office IV gave out quarterly instructions saying that during interrogations no severe measures were to be carried out. Therefore, if there had been instruments of torture, it only meant that some member of such an office would have come and reported this.

Q I refer to document RF-699, submitted as number 400, also on page 3620, concerning the murder of 48 members of the Maquis of Grenoble in August 1944. Was this a measure taken by the Security Police?

A In August 1944, the area around Nimes was definitely a battle area. I do not see in this document that the police has been mentioned as being responsible.

Q On page 3622, document RF-587 is submitted as 401. It treats of the hanging of 12 members of the resistance movement in Nimes, on the second of March, 1944. Was this a police measure?

A It says here that the prisoners concerned were arrested by German

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troops. Mention is then made of the rural police, and then mention is made that the prisoners concerned were Frenchmen who had been tortured by the SS.

Q On page 3622, document RF-591, has been submitted as number 403. It treats ofGerman SS men in Travaux. Did the Security Police have any part in this measure?

A No mention is made here of SS men of the division Adolf Hitler. These people had nothing to do with the Security Police.

Q On page 3644 of the German record, document 611 is submitted as number 419. Mention is made of a police action on 15 June 1944 near St. Donat. Was this an action of the Security Police?

A No, because in the document it is mentioned that airplanes were used and that the German troops entered St. Donat. Mention of General Von Neubronn as representative of the Supreme Commander West in Vichy shows that themeasures taken here were military ones that can in no way be designated as being police measures.

Q On page 3645 of the German record, I now refer to F-492, number RF-421. It treats of the murder of 35 Jews in St. Amand near Bourges. On page 1 it says that on 21 July 1944, a lorry arrived from Bourges with a uniformed German and one or two civilians and some French militia men and it says further that these men were received by the Chief of the militia of this place. What does this show?

A In my opinion this was a command of the French militia.

Q On page 10, mention is made that a serious skirmish took place between the Franctireurs Et Partisans, and militia men and Germans. What does this prove?

A This proves that this was a battle action.

Q On pages 11 to 14, a large number of French names is mentioned, saying that these people took part in arresting Jews. Can this establish a participation of the Security Police?

A No, not in my opinion.

Q On page 40, mention is made of Frenchmen in German officers' uniforms, What do you say to this?

A This could have been a man who either wore a German uniform illegally or w ho was a member of the French militarized SS. But, any members of the

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militarized SS would not have been abroad individually, or singly, but were stationed in barracks.

Q On page 19 mention is made of Chief of Gestapo Hasser, and of a certain Mr. Schuže, and so on. Do these names mean anything to you?

A Yes, I know a man by the name of Hasser.

Q Wha t was he?

A He may have been stationed in Bourges.

COL.NEAVE: The question is, did he belong to the Security Police?

WITNESS: Yes, hedid.

COL. NEAVE: Dr. Merkel, have you finished with this document htat he has in his hand?

DR. MERKEL: Yes.

COL. NEAVE: Then I think that this will be a convenient moment to adjourn. Have you got any more questions.

DR. MERKEL: I need about another half hour.

COL. NEAVE: Then we will continue tomorrow morning at 10:00 o'clock.

(TheCommission adjourned at 1630 hours.)

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony of HANS KNOCHEN, taken on 3 June 1946.

ROSE W COOK
Reporter

ALICE MEEHAN
Reporter

C J GALLAGHER
Reporter

FULANI A AHUNA
Reporter

CERTIFIED TO:

& JOSEPH F TUBRIDY
Commissioner